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*Nostalgia Issue / Skateboarding's Deep Roots  
Fully Exposed*



## ***Dennis Martinez***

*Candid and Skate Crazy After All These Years*

## ***Big "O" Pro-Am***

*Olson, Gelfand and Hirsch Make It Tight And Terrific*

## ***Craig Chaquico...***

*And The Jefferson Starship Get Skate Worthy*

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*Classic Cruiser Bikes*

*Mellow Cat And The Great Oil Wars*







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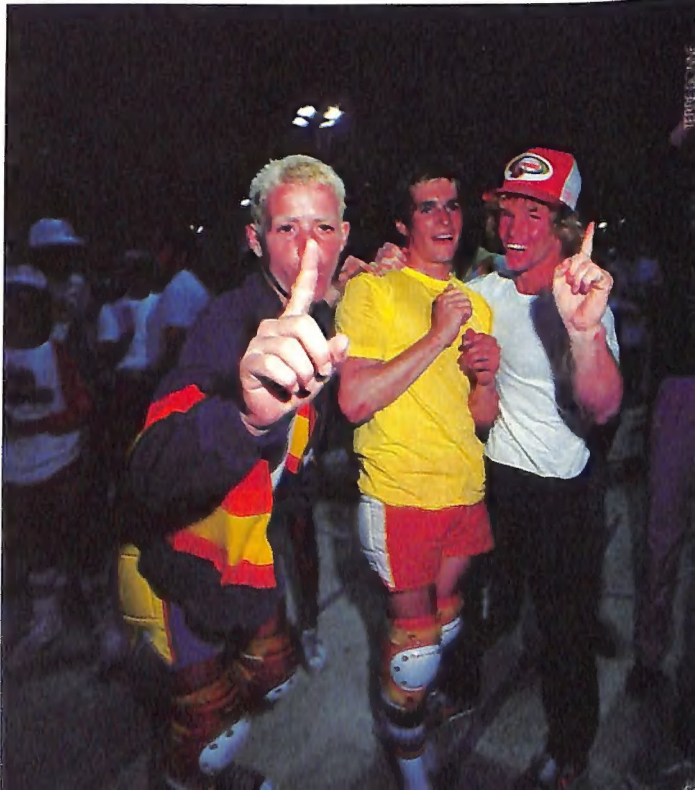
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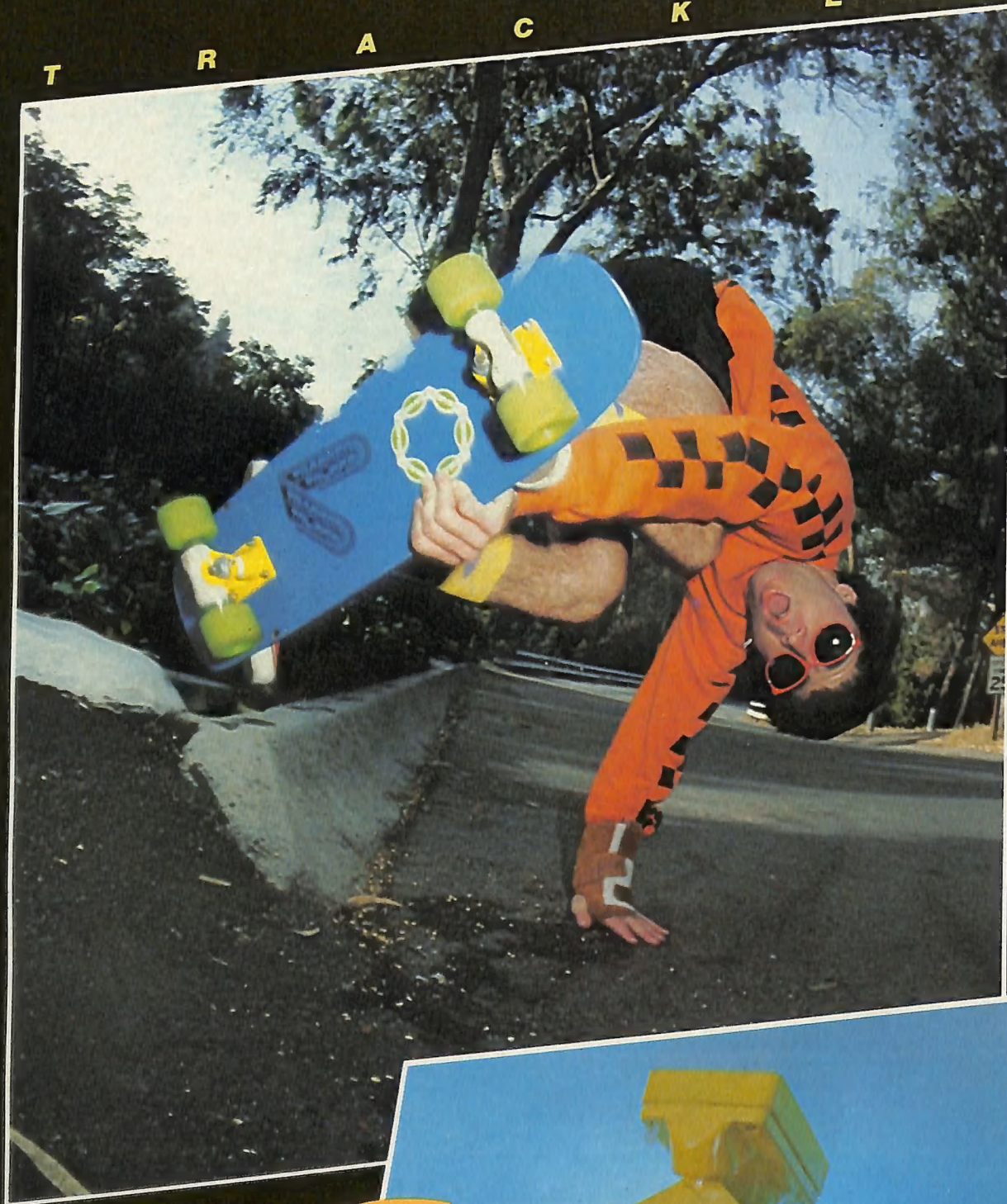


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# SkateBoarder®

## CONTENTS

Volume 6, Number 10—May 1980

### FEATURES

- 20** Big "O" Pro-Am • Don Hoffman
- 28** History Of The World And Other Short Subjects • John Smythe
- 32** Where Are They Now?
- 52** Mellow Cat • Ted Richards
- 54** Classic Cruisers • Leon Dixon
- 58** Interview: Dennis Martinez • B. Barreto
- 70** Profile: Dale Smith • Don Hoffman
- 74** Special Interview: Craig Chaquico • Benito S.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

- 39** Nostalgia Focus

### DEPARTMENTS

- 12** Skate Safe: The Dynamics Of Skating—Part I • Curtis Hesselgrave
- 13** Roll 'n Rock • Corky Carroll
- 14** Skate Post
- 66** Competition Briefs
- 72** Off The Wall
- 79** Extra

*COVER: Skateboarders have a rich and colorful history spanning over twenty years—and we thought it was about time you knew about it! The shot of Mike Weed at the San Juan Pool (left) in 1976 shows the emergence of pool riding as sophisticated and challenging art. The Jacks team with red flares (center), taken in 1965, represents the fun and flash which has always been synonymous with the sport. And Tommy Ryan shooting La Costa (right), circa 1977, hints at just how much of a crazy rush the whole thing can be. For the full, illustrated story, turn to page 28. Photos: Bolster, Stoner, Bolster.*

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**20**



**58**



**40**





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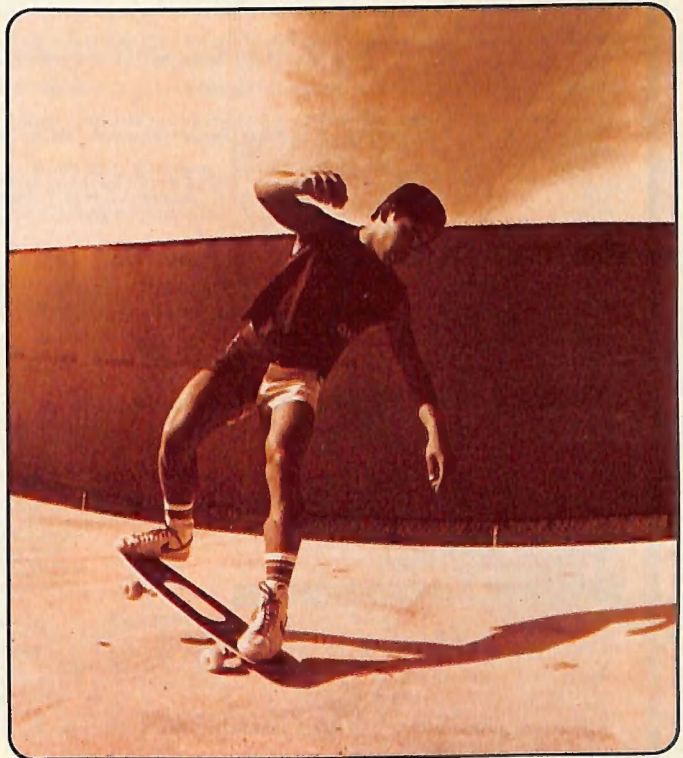
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**POWELL (no tape): RAY "BONES" RODRIGUEZ 10" x 30" \$37.95; Snub Nose \$37.95; Widetail \$38.95; BRITTE-LITE — 10" x 30" \$35.95, 10 1/4" x 31 1/2" \$36.95; BEAMER — 10" x 30" \$49.95, 10 1/4" x 31 1/2" \$51.95.**

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**Price includes 2 precision German Speed Bearings & Spacer; Sims Gold Bearings add 50¢ per wheel; without any bearings less \$1.50 per wheel.**

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or Snake Conical \$8.95 (Y B G R). Snake II \$8.75.

**KRYPTONICS: Roller Skate — C62mm \$4.95, C65mm \$5.50; "Original" 65mm, green \$3.95; CORE "C" SERIES — C65mm \$5.50, C70mm \$5.95 (R G); Conical — CX 64mm \$8.25 (B G).**

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**Kryptonics C/S A/S**

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**Independent (Indy) C/S A/S**

**Dog Town Skates C/S A/S**

**Town & Country C/S A/S**

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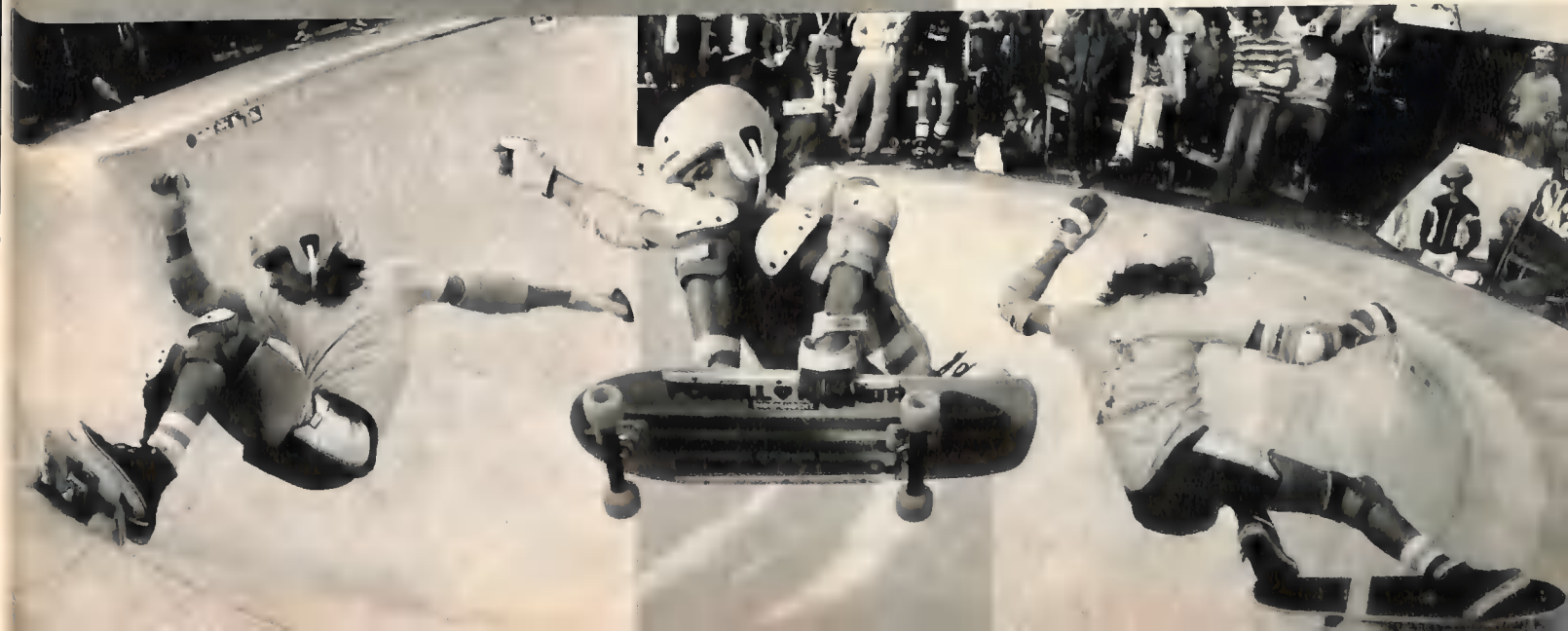


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# SKATE SAFE

## THE DYNAMICS OF SKATING—PART I

by Curtis Hesselgrave

As I sit down to write this month's article, the Winter Olympics are on the television. Watching the athletes perform at peak levels makes me think of all the training that they have put in to arrive at this moment. Yet, even more impressive than the condition of the athletes themselves is their understanding of the principles of their sport, principles that permit every ounce of the athlete's physical ability to be used in the execution of their particular event. Over and over again the color commentators emphasize the way that the winning athletes do the right thing at the right time.

At the foundation of every sport are the principles that govern the motion of the human body. We have spoken of these fundamentals—relaxation, center of gravity, whole body commitment, anticipation—many times. Every sport also contains fundamentals and principles that apply specifically to that sport. In past Skate Safe columns we have discussed the principles that are unique to skateboarding. However, since many of these things were discussed two or three years ago, we figured everybody could profit from some review.

By way of introduction to this series on the fundamentals, I would like to explain how I view the process of learning a high-performance sport like skateboarding, or any other sport, for that matter.

There are three distinct levels an athlete must progress through as he or she masters a sport. These are the familiar beginning, intermediate, and advanced stages of development we have heard of all our lives. Although it may seem old hat to talk about this development sequence, I think that if you'll bear with me, you'll find some information that will help you improve your skating.

Beginner, intermediate, advanced—although the transitions between the three are indistinct, the skills that are developed at each stage are distinct.

The beginner learns the rudiments of the sport. In skateboarding this includes how to stand on the board, how to push off and how to stop. Next comes left and right turns, running off as an emergency stop, and, in the latter stages of the beginning phase, standing up straighter and using the knees and ankles, instead of upper body, to control turning. At the transition zone between beginner and intermediate the skateboarder begins to play with his board, learning how to



*"In the advanced stage the sport assumes broad horizons." Kevin Moore, layback ollie. New Wave Skatepark, Pomona.*

control speed by turning, how to jump off curbs, and first adventures in nose wheelies and kickturns. At this point the skater is beginning to feel good about his balance on the board. When this happens the rider fully enters the intermediate stage.

In the intermediate stage the athlete develops the central skills of the sport. In skateboarding this means that the rider is learning the skills of all the parts of skateboarding: linked downhill turns (racing), weight placement and footwork (freestyle), and traversing walls and negotiating transitions (poolriding). This intermediate step is the most important part of the skater's development for it is here that good technical habits are formed.


As an intermediate the skater must learn to practice. By this I mean that the rider must cultivate a logical, consistent approach to learning new maneuvers. Every maneuver mastered lays the foundation for the next one to be learned.

The intermediate skater is quite prone to injury, because at this stage of the game he is trying so many new things. The enthusiasm of the moment and peer pressure often pushes the rider into attempting maneuvers that are beyond his current capability. Sometimes he gets lucky; his speed, line, execution and follow through are all correct. But more often, an untried maneuver, done under social pressure, results in a fall. To protect

himself, he should cultivate good practice habits and always wear safety equipment.

In the advanced stage the sport assumes broad horizons. The fundamentals have been mastered, the subtle nuances are being perfected. The rider is still learning; perhaps he feels that he is learning more than he ever did before. Body and board are becoming one and maneuvers seem to be getting simpler. Complicated tricks are seen as combinations of simpler moves. Timing, flow and style become major considerations. Many advanced skaters are involved in competition and therefore are required to put together well thought out routines that flow and highlight their strong points.

The advanced rider strives for perfection. A perfectly executed maneuver sets you up for the next one and the next and the next. Original maneuvers are developed out of a firm grasp of the fundamentals coupled with an active imagination. As surfer/skater Larry Bertleman once said in his now famous quote, "Anything is possible." To the advanced rider this saying is reality, not just a nice idea.

Take an eyes-open approach to learning any sport; recognize your stage of development, your degree of physical conditioning, and your mental conditioning. If all this is in your grasp, little will be left to chance and you'll realize the greatest reward of all—pure fun! 

TERREBONNE



# ROLL 'N ROCK

by Corky Carroll

Beam in all you skate cruisers—it's R & R time again here at Skate Central. I've got a mixture here that is some old and some new and pretty much skateable stuff. Lots of mail this month calling for a Neil Young review, so there's one here for ya. Some guy wrote in and got on my case for not reviewing any disco records. Well, just because you've got bad taste, doesn't mean I have to. Blaach! So take your disco and get out of here, you knuckle head!

## "MONOLITH"

### Kansas

Kirshner Records FZ 36008

Kansas is a powerful band that has been gaining popularity in recent years. The polish and excellent production of this album works very well, and the energy of the performances comes through too! One thing that is pretty amazing about Kansas is how they blend raw power with gentle sensitivity and make them work to enhance each other.

The pulse of most of the material here makes for good solid music to skate to. You punks will probably say this is not gritty enough for you, but you'll have to admit that it does rock!

## "SYLVAIN"

### Sylvain

RCA AFL 1-3475

Here is a new, refreshing act. The music seems to combine sixties style rock 'n roll, Beach Boys-like pop, New Wave-like mixes, and rock-a-billy. What more can I say? I might not be able to explain this one, but it's good anyway.

With all of the new records that are so one-style oriented, it's nice to listen to something unique yet not too weird. A rare blend, I guess, 'cause it works!

## "HOT ROCKS"

### Rolling Stones

London 2PS 606/7

A greatest hits of 1964 to 1971 collection that includes some of the hottest rock 'n roll ever, ever recorded. The Stones are obviously the rock band of the century, so far anyway, and a collection like this is well worth having. In fact, they ought to shoot a copy of this one into space and let the aliens out there get in on what's really happening down here.

Some of the great tunes on this record are: "Brown Sugar," "Wild Horses," "Heart of Stone," "As Tears Go By," "Satisfaction," "Paint It Black," "Honky Tonk Woman," "Jumpin' Jack Flash,"



## TOP TEN (From your letters)

- |                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The Police     | 6. Jimi Hendrix       |
| 2. Ted Nugent     | 7. Nazareth           |
| 3. Neil Young     | 8. Jefferson Starship |
| 4. AC/DC          | 9. Elvin Bishop       |
| 5. Rolling Stones | 10. Devo              |

"Ruby Tuesday," "Gimme Shelter," "Midnight Rambler," "Play With Fire," "Time Is On My Side," "Mother's Little Helper," and much more. A real stoker!

## "LIVE RUST"

### Neil Young & Crazy Horse

Reprise 2AX 2296

A great collection of some of Neil Young's best songs done live. A lot of live records suffer from the lack of polish that studios provide, but not this one. The energy of the performance truly comes

through here and Young is at his emotional best. A lot of the vocals are a bit off-key, but the feeling is so prevalent that it winds up being an asset.

There is a good mixture of acoustic and electric material here. Neil Young's guitar work is excellent. A lot of people don't realize how good he really is because they tend to think of him as a songwriter and overlook his guitar playing. Well, listen closely to this record because it's all here: the haunting vocals, searing guitar, and great songs. 🎸



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# SKATE POST

## GREAT START . . .

I was sitting in my room listening to vibes of Led Zeppelin and reading your Feb. issue. Your fine interview and Focus was totally a blow-out! Your first issue of the decade was great! You guys sure started the decade off great; keep up the good work! Also up here in Canada we're getting rad as you could see by the article you did—it was great!

P.S. How about an article on wheels and trucks like your "Lite Board" article? Oh yes, and an interview with Eddie Elguera or David Andrecht?

Mike Moorhouse  
B.C. Canada

"We're pleased you're pleased!"  
Regarding the interviews, Eddie is scheduled in June and David in July." . . .  
ED.

## . . . HOWEVER

Sorry guys, but your photo of Ms. Nicki Rae in Off the Wall (page 75, Vol. 6, number 7) and story of her devotion to Micky Alba is quite definitely bogus. If you check page 36 in the February '79 issue (Vol. 5, No. 7) you will find your epic Dead Dogs collage. In the lower right corner you will see little Ms. Nicki twirling away ever so sweetly. Same picture, same everything. C'mon guys! Things aren't so bad that you have to start inventing gossip, are they? Try to at least be a little more imaginative!

Mike Stender  
Duluth, Minnesota

"I plead sabotage and failing memory."  
. . . ED.

Either Bert LaMar changed to the Powell team and does backside air like we do our carves, and Jay Smith cut his hair and carves high, or you made a mistake on page 40 & 41 of your March issue. I really liked your EXTRA and the shot of Olson in the FOCUS. Also, I have a set of Road Riders that I have put to use in the street for the last year and they held up pretty decent. I was wondering if they were still made or sold.

Captain Bunny  
Texas

"We wondered if you'd noticed . . . yes, Bert and Jay are acting a little weird these days. As for the Road Riders, they have been out of production for a while now and are in short supply. Write NHS, Inc for further info." . . . ED.

In your "Truck Design Strategies" article (Vol. 6 #9), you omitted Tracker Magnesium Midtracks and Sixtracks, both of which are popular, available and yellow. Also in the "weight column" of your chart you included the Space Pad in the weight





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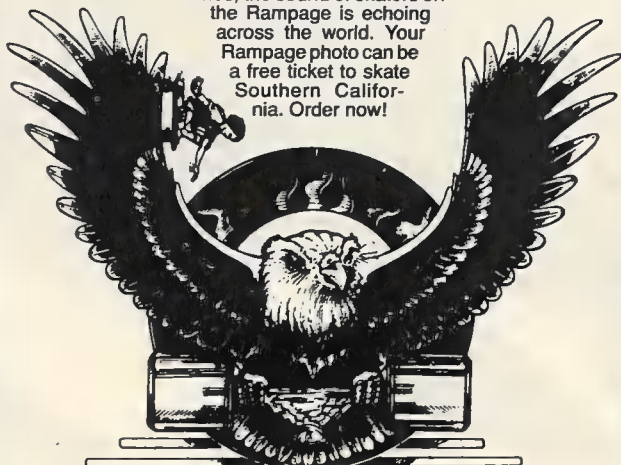
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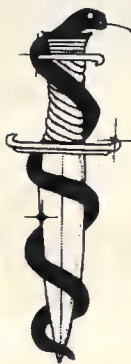
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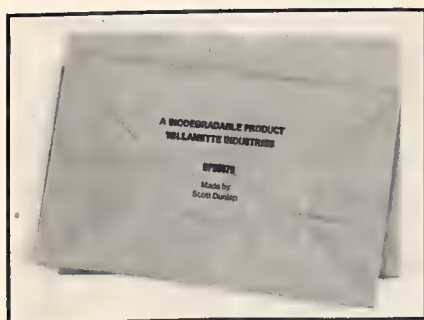
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"We also unintentionally excluded Variflex's Connection Trucks from our discussion. For the record, the 8.5" and 9" are among the most popular on the market. According to Variflex's Gil Losi, 'Only certified, prime aluminum is used . . . the king pin is laid under to minimize hang-ups . . . the weight is competitive . . . we were the first to use urethane cushions.' . . . again deepest apologies to Tracker and Variflex." . . . ED.

## DUNLAP

I figured since I haven't seen Scott Dunlap in any recent issues of SKATEBOARDER, that his new occupation is making grocery bags as evidenced by the enclosed sample. Is this correct?

B.C.  
Scottsdale, Arizona



"No. However, rumor is that after being sacked at the Pipeline Skatepark, Scott has turned his attention to pro BMX racing." . . . ED.

## ALTERNATIVE STOKES

I'd like to comment on some of the great articles that you have run in the past couple of issues.

For instance, the two part article on Snowboards. It blew me away how radical you can get in the snow. And I thought skiing was rad! Skiing's nothing compared to Lonnie Toft and his board!!!

Also in the February and March issues, the BMX articles. I always thought



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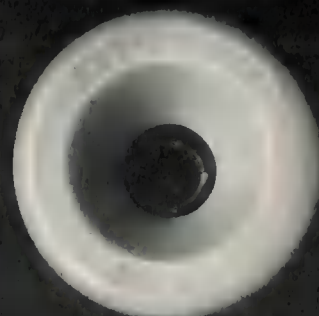
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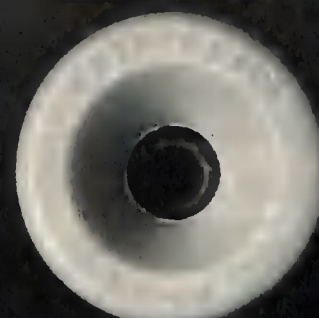
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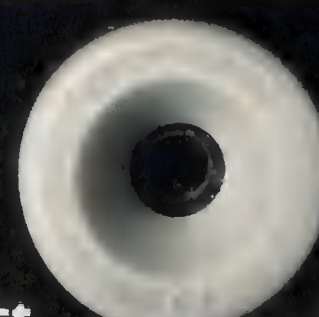
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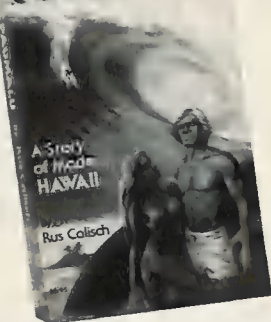
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motocross was kind of dumb, but you have changed my mind. BMX on cruisers is totally insane!!!

Keep up the excellent work!

P.S. I hope you do another BMX cruiser article.

Todd Barnard  
Tustin, California

### DEVO

My friend thinks that the guy in the Duty Now For the Future ad is just a guy dressed in DEVO pants and shirt. I think it's either Bob #1, Bob #2, Jerry, Alan or Mark of DEVO. Please send answer. I have a \$10 bet.

Eric Engle

"You're both wrong! The person in question is not 'just a guy...' but Chuck Rios, champion skater, noted authority on New Wave trivia and personal friend of the King." ... ED.

Can you please tell me how I can acquire one of those "Duty Now for the Future" shirts pictured in your subscription advertisement page 74 Vol. 6 No. 8?

P.S. Keep up the good work in your mag! I have been a subscriber for 2 years and intend to keep right on subscribing forever!

Hank Zachry  
Abilene, Texas

"Regarding the shirt, we suggest you go to the next Devo concert and sit in the first row with a big net..." ... ED.

### TO OUR READERS

"In the March issue of Skate Post, we published a letter from a reader in Germany in which he talked about the state of the sport in Germany, and also complained about a delay in a mail order from one of our advertisers, Skateboard Specialists. We printed that portion of the letter without knowing all the facts.

All of the mail order advertisers currently in SKATEBOARDER are known to be reliable; if we receive an unusual number of complaints, we reject the ads. This has not been the case with Skateboard Specialists.

Most delays in mail orders can be accounted for by failure of the product manufacturer to deliver sufficient quantities of a popular item. This was the case with the complaint from Germany, and the matter has been satisfactorily resolved.

We would like to apologize to Skateboard Specialists for leaving the impression that their operation might be a "rip off,"—it isn't—and to reassure our readers that they can order with confidence from any of our existing mail order advertisers." ... ED.

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Tracker Grommets	\$ 1.25
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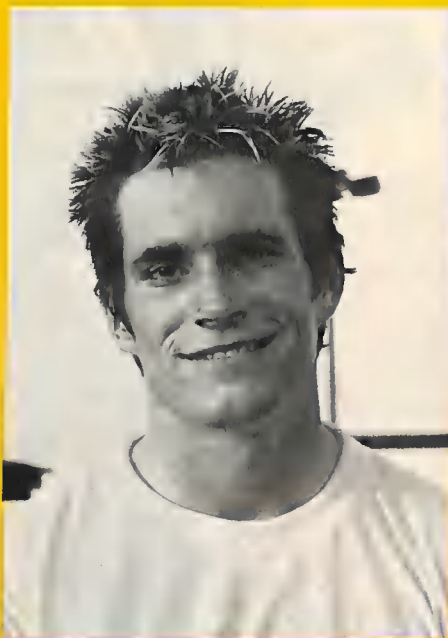
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# BIG "O" PRO-AM

## A POSITIVE SIGN OF THE TIMES

by Don Hoffman

Is skateboarding alive in the eighties? Well, if it isn't, then somebody should have told the amazing group of pro and amateur competitors that gathered at the recent Big O Contest. Held on Sunday, February 3, and preceded by A.S.P.O. #4 on Saturday, February 2, the 182 amateurs lent an atmosphere of high energy to Sunday's pro-am showdown. The pros were their usually incredible selves.

The format of this competition had the amateur skaters competing together with the pros. However, an amateur could not displace a pro in any cut. For example, the first cut was from a field of 27 to 16 pros, plus any amateurs whose scores beat the top 16

pros. The same procedure would follow at the next cut of 9 and the final cut of 4.

The question was: Was this, or any other format, enough to ensure a good contest? And what of other important criteria?

Well, somehow the Big O Pro-Am seemed to fulfill all requirements. For instance, there was an appearance by Tony Alva (competing is not necessary). T.A. even arrived sporting aqua-marine colored hair! This had the necessary effect of focusing the spectators' attention on important matters at hand.

Along with an Alva appearance, it is also necessary to have a highly charged and interesting crowd. Oftentimes during this event there was actually more going on in the stands than in the pool! An average amount of parking lot action is likewise helpful (contrary to popular opinion, fights are not mandatory), as well as a fair share of too cool types just "hanging out."

Of course, a heated controversy over procedure is always nice. In this case, the controversy centered around a 3-way tie between Alan Gelfand, Steve Olson and Steve Hirsch. The conflict was over whether each skater's second run should be used to break the tie. There was some question as to the consistency with which this rule had been used during the contest.

(Above)

The Big O Pro-Am had to be a close one. Attracting some of today's top bowlriding talents, the finals eventually reduced down to a neck 'n neck battle between Steve Hirsch, Steve Olson and Alan Gelfand. All three put in incredibly powerful routines, and even after the final scores were in, the question remained: Who had actually won?

(Right)

Fifth place Allen Losi, the highest scoring amateur in the open pool event, helped stiffen the competition with a barrage of blazing moves. Layback air.









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However, it was resolved by the organizers (not without heated discussion) that the scores of "other" runs would decide the matter.

More important, though, you need hot skate action—limits being pushed and new limits being set. Alan Gelfand's and Steve Olson's last runs more than satisfied this requirement.

With all the criteria mentioned having been met, perhaps you may now be wondering who won, and how. But before we announce the winners, maybe we should deal with how they got there.

Twelve pros and fifteen amateurs entered Sunday's competition. A relatively small number, but quality of skating isn't necessarily related to quantity. At the Big O the quality was obvious!

After the first round it was clear that the amateurs were holding their own. Neil Blender scored very high throughout the first round. Very few amateurs were eliminated and all twelve of the competing pros made it through the first cut. After the cut to nine pros, the field narrowed considerably. Top performances were again turned in by amateurs Blender, Allen Losi and Mike McGill. Leading the scoring was Eric Grisham with his unbelievable "Vaerial" channel jump. The "Vaerial" was later voted the best trick of the contest and Eric received \$50 for his effort—perhaps some small compensation for his disappointment in being forced to withdraw from the final round after sustaining a painful knee injury on a practice run.

Making the finals were: Steve Olson, Alan Gelfand, Steve Hirsch and Eddie Elguera from the pro ranks; and Allen Losi the only survivor among the amateurs.

The finals were intense and the crowd was pumped! On their first runs, Olson and Gelfand looked strong. Allen Losi wasn't out-classed and hung in there. "El Gato" Elguera was consistent, as usual. But the pressure was on Steve Hirsch, who uses the Big O as home base, to have a slight edge on the others. Steve started out strong and aggressive but midway through his run, he fell, taking him out of contention.

Run two, final round—this was it! Last chance! During the first run, no rider

(Above left)

Local boy Duane Peters took time out from his hair cutting duties to snag a ninth at the Big O. Layback rollback.

(Left)

Dennis Agnew has a habit of showing up out of nowhere and blowing minds. Dennis' full extension handplants exploded on cue, earning him a deserving seventh.

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Alan Gelfand won the highest air award, also winging radically into a three-way tie in the pool event. The critical tie-breaking "other" run later knocked Alan down to second place.





had dominated the scoring. It was still wide open—anybody could win! Allen Losi dropped in and looked good, but did not better his first run. Elguera was next, and again, although his run was excellent he did not surpass his first attempt. Then it was Olson's turn.

Steve Olson is not a "trick" skater. He relies on drawing lines and pushing the limit on all the tricks he attempts. The channel jump was attempted by many but mastered by few. Yet, while making his final carve for speed, Steve hit the channel—well over coping—early released and hung his back trucks up on the other lip! Unbelievably, he stayed on his board and continued his run with aggression and style.

Not to be outdone, Alan Gelfand "Ollie hopped" the channel, coping high and traveled at least 10 feet horizontally! The crowd was going insane!

Hirsch then kept the momentum going, putting in a tight, aggressive routine with numerous difficult tricks. Steve finished his flawless run to strong cheers from the crowd for the hometown favorite.

Once again, it came down to a 3-way tie between Olson, Gelfand, and Hirsch. Going by the rules of the contest the riders' second run (or, to be more correct, the "other" run) was used to determine the winner. As a result, Steve Olson was the victor. His aggressive style and all-out tactics had paid off in the form of the \$1,000 first prize.

So how had those three riders arrived at a tie in the first place? In the opinion of the judges, each rider had achieved his score in a different way. In the case of Olson and Gelfand, it was the fact that they had pushed limits in their own respective styles. For Hirsch it was the perfection of his routine. When they had to use the other run to determine the order of finish, it came out with Gelfand second and Hirsch third.

Along with the main poolriding competition, other events took place. Highest air was taken by Alan Gelfand and the Doubles was won by the team of Andrecht and Siegfried. Amateurs Patti Hoffman and Carabeth Burnside took first and second in the women's poolriding, with pros Leigh Parkin and Brenda Devine finishing third and fourth.

(Left)  
Sixth place Ray "Bones" Rodriguez drew some unusual lines, including this backside aerial over the canyon.

(Right)  
Steve Olson's consistently high-point routines, despite his seemingly go-for-broke approach, made him the eventual victor and a grand richer. Canyon jump.

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For Tony Hawk, it was a perfect day when he landed the first ever 900.



Congratulations to Terry Wulf and his staff for a successful and exciting contest and a special thanks to Ocean Pacific, KROQ, and the various skateboarding manufacturers for supporting the contest and the continued growth of skateboarding. ☺

## RESULTS:

### Capsule Pool

1. Steve Olson (Santa Cruz/NHS)	\$1,000
2. Alan Gelfand (Powell/Peralta)	500
3. Steve Hirsch (Variflex)	300
4. Eddie Elguera (Variflex)	200
5. Allen Losi (Variflex)	AM
6. Ray Rodriguez (Powell/Peralta)	150
7. Dennis Agnew (Z-Flex)	100
8. Dave Andrecht (Sims)	75
9. Duane Peters (Santa Cruz/NHS)	50
10. Micke Alba (Kryptonics)	25
11. Mike McGill (Powell)	AM
12. Neil Blender (G & S)	AM
13. Freddie DeSota (Variflex)	AM
14. Mike Siegfried (Variflex)	
15. George Orton (Santa Cruz)	
16. Mike Hirsch (Variflex)	AM
17. Mike Smith (Dogtown)	AM
18. Eric Grisham (Variflex)	AM
19. Teddy Bennett (Vans)	AM
20. Mark Baker (Caster)	AM
21. Chris Strole (Caster)	
22. Jose Castro (Dogtown)	AM
23. Rusty St. Cyr	AM
24. John Harris (Sims)	AM
25. Doug Cobalis	AM
26. John Schaaf	AM
27. Kenny Stelmasky	AM

### Girls' Pro-Am

1. Patti Hoffman (Variflex)	AM
2. Carabeth Burnside	AM
3. Leigh Parkin	\$200
4. Brenda Devine	\$100

### Highest Air

Alan Gelfand (Powell/Peralta)	\$130
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### Doubles

David Andrecht/Mike Siegfried	\$100
-------------------------------	-------

### Most Radical Trick

Eric Grisham—"Vaerial Channel Jump"	\$50
--	------

### Worst Fall

Eric Grisham	\$25
(donated by Shox Safety Equipment)	



(Above right)

David Andrecht flies frontside over the canyon and toward a respectable eighth.

(Right)

Fourth place Eddie Elguera showed more of the cat-like agility which has made "El Gato" the top pro bowl competitor over the last year. Early release canyon jump.

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**THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD  
AND  
OTHER SHORT SUBJECTS**



*Tommy Ryan, circa 1965.*

**OR  
FROM JAN AND DEAN TO JOE JACKSON  
UNABRIDGED**



by John Smythe

History, by definition, is a dead issue. The past is past and the future is sometime else. Skateboarding dwells in the present. Yesterday's heroes, the mangled messages left molding by the all-fronts media blitz and tomorrow's tragedies are all meaningless to the contemporary skater. All that matters is the act of skating. The pure and simple act of, the infinitely complex methodology of traveling through space and time employing seemingly opposing forces.

Forget about the mainline and the fast lane; the edge of the glide is all that is of value. The true skater surveys all that is offered, takes all that is given, goes after the rest and leaves nothing to chance. In a society on hold and planet on self-destruct, the only safe recourse is an insane approach. We're talking attitude; the ability to deal with a given set of pre-determined circumstances and to extract what you want and discard the rest. Skaters by their very nature are urban guerrillas; the future foragers of the present, working out in a society dictated by the principles of the past. The skater makes everyday use of the useless artifacts of the technological burden. The skating urban anarchist employs the handiwork of the governmental/corporate structure in a thousand ways that the original architects could never even dream of: sidewalks for walking, curbs for parking, streets for driving, pipes for liquids, sewers for refuse, etc., have all been re-worked into a new social order.

### Why Nobody Needs Monitors or Mechanimals

TV exists as a shrine to progress. Better living through electricity in Golden Medallion Homes. Think about the national pride soaring in overdrive down that never-ending asphalt ribbon to Utopia. Get your kicks on Route 66 at 23¢ a high-test gallon. Consider Starsky and Hutch, Batman and Robin, and all the rest of our motor culture heroes suddenly in the war zone after the "V" for victory became transposed into V-8 luxury and the era of status consumption. Remember the ultimate global "gas war" in which, in the end, the users became the only casualties.

But what we're talking about here is skateboarding and how to dwell in the promised land after the dream has faded. Why watch the news when you already have the solution to the problem? This is not a historical piece; it's a tribute to the newest radical propositions. With the style and freedom of the open road curtailed by the ultimate "energy crisis," why worry? Two-, four-, or eight-wheeled . . . the answer is always the same. People-



STONER

*Change is the only constant—especially in skateboarding. Anaheim, 1965. Del Mar, 1975. Big "O," 1980.*



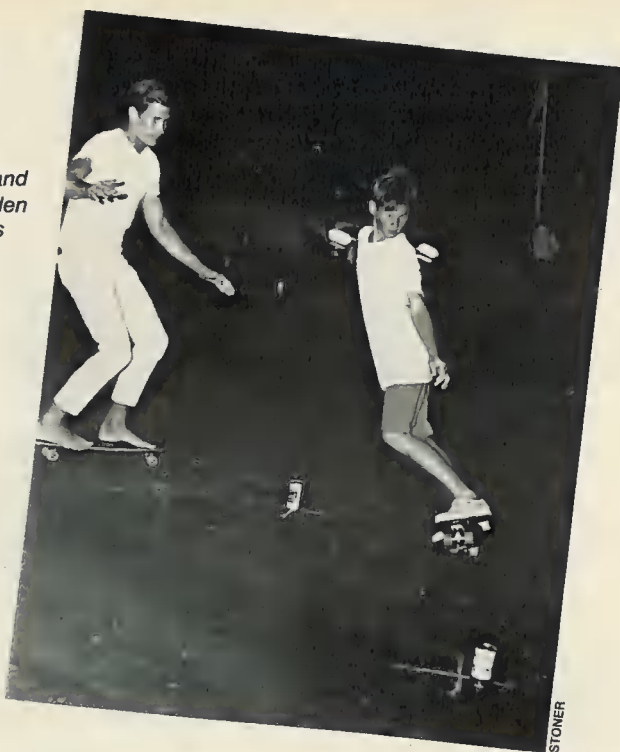
BOLSTER



CASSINUS



Torger Johnson and Joey Cabell, Hidden Valley night rallies (1965).



STONER

Obscure three-wheeled Skooter Skate, circa 1939. From the collection of Mr. and Mrs. H. Allen Seymour II.



Danny Bearer hanging toes. Revere, 1965.



STONER

powered vehicles don't consume, don't pollute and offer unlimited inherent fun potential. Do the old folks a favor and loan them your skate, bike or whatever. In converting them you'll be helping yourself out too, for a motocross mother and a freestyling father are handy to have around. If you can't buy that logic, then do it as a final tribute to the vanishing herds of Winnebagos, which once roamed the continent at will.

## ■ Why Joe Jackson is a Jerk

Joe Jackson stands publicly embalmed in the pop marketplace, jacket open, hawking his wares. Yes, he is a cheap hype and he knows it. In fact, he says he's laughing all the way to the bank. Jackson's plight is symptomatic of all the rest of the media



On the strand at La Jolla Shores, circa 1964.

manipulator scam artists. While he claims to be "A Man," he concurrently dismisses skateboarding as a fad. The mass media has no validity because it cannot effectively deal with things it can't understand. It may have been fifteen years from Jan and Dean's "Bust your buns and go sidewalk surfing with me," to J.J.'s "Skateboards . . . I almost made them respectable," but the tired show biz act is still the same. Luckily the mass media has written skating off. Now we can get back to real business. Unfortunately, mouths that move propelled by minds that don't are seldom silent for very long.

## ■ What Comes Around, Goes Around

Dateline 1965, Anaheim, California, Nationals. Set up: flat freestyle, slight slope slalom.

Dateline 1975, Del Mar, California, Bahne Cadillac Nationals. Set up: flat freestyle, gradual slope slalom.



Dateline 1980, Big O Pro-Am. Set up: no flat freestyle, no slalom, but vertical/bowl terrain exclusively.

Three random contest sites chosen for being indicative of their respective times. At the current time there is much speculation as to "Whatever happened to freestyle?" At Del Mar in '75 and Anaheim in '65, the question which perplexed a few was, "Where were the banks (terrain-wise)?" All of this just goes to prove that the given "constants" or values of any period of time may not necessarily be applicable to another. Freestyle and slalom are beginning to "re-emerge" publicity-wise as the skating community as a whole is adapting to a different set of circumstances. (Nothing in life is static and in regard to skateboarding, that is particularly true.)



Dave Hilton, curb jump. 1965.



Steve Hilton carves Foxtail, 1965.

In the past couple of years, vertical riding has garnered most of the attention primarily because it was the most *obviously apparent* area of dynamic growth and feverish advancement. During the period freestyle and slalom continued to develop out of the spotlight. They weren't "dead," they were just less visible. Reality often is revealed only through an intense search for it. Take it *where* you want and use it *how* you want.

## Survivors

The last time I saw Torger Johnson he was maxi-shredding a beachfront wood ramp on the isle of Kauai. The first time Torger ever saw a skateboard was around 1960 when John Milius, a local surf-type, rode one over to visit T.J.'s sister. In the interim, Johnson became and has continued to be one of the most proficient of the skateboarding elite. He's won countless contests, (continued on page 34)





# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Waldo, March, 1976.  
San Juan pool.

## WALDO AUTREY

THEN: Mid-70's prime mover in radical pipe and pool terrain. Known for extreme lines at the Mt. Baldy pipeline, the Arizona Desert pipes, and innumerable Southern California pools.

NOW: Age 23. Parts machinist for a tool and die company, Paramount, California.  
"I still surf and skate sometimes . . . I guess I haven't been too involved lately . . . I'm Don Autry now."



Dave Hilton, 1965. Hidden Hills, Laguna.

## DAVE HILTON

THEN: Cover skater, SKATEBOARDER Vol. 1 #1. Third place tricks, 1965 Anaheim Nationals. Youngest member of Hobie-Super Surfer team.

NOW: Age 27. Casino management trainee, Las Vegas Hilton.

"I recall our '65 East Coast tour, food fights, terrorizing, demos in front of 250-800 people . . . We used to ride a pool at Foxtail Park, but we never even thought about getting air . . . they're really taking it to the ultimate these days."



Bearer, 1965. Revere.

## DANNY BEARER

THEN: First place flatland slalom (Boys 12-and-under) and member of first place Hobie-Super Surfer team, 1964 Anaheim Nationals. Original member of the 1975 Logan Earth Ski team.

NOW: Age 30. Realtor/carpenter, Marina del Rey, California.

"I remember Revere and Balegio during the early days . . . twenty foot, wide open banks. Too bad all the kids now are stuck in those pools and can't get out. I've got a piece of ashwood setting here for a new board. Skating's a good, healthy sport."



Steve Hilton, 1965.  
Foxtail pool.

## STEVE HILTON

THEN: Older brother of Dave. Fifth place tricks, 1965 Anaheim Nationals. Member of Hobie-Super Surfer team.

NOW: Age 29. Recently promoted to assistant to the general manager, Mobile (Alabama) Hilton.

"It's really an exciting feeling to know that we were on the forefront of a sport . . . I love skateboarding; it's a beautiful expression. Right now I'm as good or better than then."



CASSIMUS

## RICK BLACKHART

THEN: A.k.a. Dr. Rick, a.k.a. The Terror of San Jose, a.k.a. Ted Two. Although Rick shunned pro bowl competition, the reputation of this Northern California skater assumed legendary proportions due to his undaunted approach toward anything vertical. Rick refused to ride anything less.

NOW: Age 21. Parts delivery man for a plumbing company, San Jose, California.

"Skating used to be really great. Everything was new; most moves had never been done before. I'm glad I went through it . . . I'm working on my full race 650 Kawasaki now, skating whenever a private pool turns up."



CASSIMUS

Blackhart, on edge at Skull pool (August, 1977) and into earthier pursuits (February, 1980).



STONER

## JOHN FREIS

THEN: First place overall, 1965 Anaheim Nationals. Prominent member of Makaha and Hobie-Super Surfer teams. Innovator of numerous freestyle tricks, including the nose-wheelie. Media credits: Frosted Flakes commercial, "To Tell The Truth," Bruce Brown Hobie team film.

NOW: Age 29. Employed in fish wholesale, San Mateo, California.

"We were always trying to invent something. We were very competitive, so much so that we bypassed everyone else . . . 'To Tell The Truth' was kind of a highlight, but they busted me cold. Two Jewish kids and a blond (me)—what would you expect?"



J. FREIS

Freis with trophies, yesterday (1965 Anaheim Nationals) and today (1980, San Francisco).



STECYK

Izan, Revere (1967) and Rhodesia (1979).

## CARLOS IZAN

THEN: Elusive skater, said to have frequented Balegio and Revere during '60's and '70's. Wrote two of SKATEBOARDER's most popular articles: "Fear of Flying" (Vol. 2 #3) and "Aspects of the Downhill Slide" (Vol. 2 #3).

NOW: Soldier of fortune, war correspondent; missing in action while fighting with guerrillas in Rhodesia.

"I died for your sins."



BOLSTER

## RODNEY JESSE

THEN: Known for electric hair and pool and park abilities during the '77-'78 period.

NOW: Age 20. Surfing "mostly," Leucadia, California.

"My tour of Japan with Gregg (Weaver) was great. So were the six weeks I spent in Florida . . . I skate once in awhile . . . mostly in the street—slides and stuff."



SMITH

Jesse, Firestone ramp (December, 1977) and Leucadia Street (February, 1980).

## BRUCE LOGAN

THEN: Second place (behind Torger Johnson) tricks, 1965 Anaheim Nationals. During the 1964-77 period, Bruce took firsts in over 22 contests.

The Logans have been called the "first family of skateboarding," as brothers Brad and Brian and sister Robin were also accomplished skaters, while Mrs. Logan ran Logan Earth Ski.

NOW: Age 29. Temporarily unemployed carpenter, Leucadia, California.

"I learned a lot from the business. It was



BOLSTER

Logan, June, 1977.



a valuable experience. I should have taken it more seriously . . . I'd like to be involved in a skateboard company again some day."



Milius on set of "Big Wednesday" (1979).

OPPER

## JOHN MILIUS

THEN: Early 60's Pacific Palisades surfer/skater. Sometimes known as the "Father of the kickturn."

NOW: Age 35. Author of various screenplays, including "Apocalypse Now," "1941," and "Big Wednesday." "Jack Barth and I showed the kickturn to Torger (Johnson) and the Hiltons. We used to skate a lot when the surf was no good; imitate a surf style or perfect a move . . . It's about time I got credit for being father of the sport."



Mohr, Beach Boys concert (July, 1976).

BOLSTER

## BOB MOHR

THEN: Fourth overall, 1965 Anaheim Nationals. Led Kips team to victory on "Surf's Up" (Los Angeles television, mid-60's). Top freestyler on 70's Team Bahne.

NOW: Age 31. Professional musician. Active racquetball player. "I'm waiting to hopefully start skating professionally again. Me and Ty Page and a few others are working on a program for amusement parks . . . Skateboarding will never die; it will always be around as a mode of transportation, a vehicle of fun."



Neishi, April, 1975. La Costa.

BOLSTER

## BOB NEISHI

THEN: Mid-70's surfer/skater from Huntington Beach, California, who garnered media attention for his smooth, unassuming style.

NOW: Age 21. Strawberry farmer, Orange County, California. Recreational skier, surfer.

"I just tried to skate like I surf—cutbacks, off the lips. It was great back then. Everything was unriden. By the way, I like tall blonds. They can call anytime after six."



Oneal, 1980.

## ELLEN ONEAL

THEN: Placed in the top three of numerous women's freestyle events, 1975-77. Highly regarded for her feminine, ballet-influenced freestyle, this petite blond toured nationally and overseas during the late 70's. A finalist in the 1975 All American Girl contest, she culminated her career by skating before a national TV audience.

NOW: Age 20. Occasional commercial and fashion model, and waitress. Currently planning a future in tele-communications or as an airline stewardess.

"Skateboarding was a big part of my life, traveling and meeting a lot of neat people . . . I still skate to keep in shape and to keep up on modeling assignments . . . I believe the industry went overboard with all the radical equipment. Maybe skating will resurface and be a fun sport again."



STECYK



STECYK

Pratt in skatecar (February, 1977) and shaping Shogo's board (January, 1980).



Shufeldt, 1975. La Costa.

BOLSTER

## NATHAN PRATT

THEN: Original member of the 1975 Zephyr team. Early involvement in advanced poolriding, aerials and enclosed skate fairings. First SKATEBOARDER interview for a skater without a Who's Hot.

NOW: Age 22. Owner of Horizons West Surfboards, Santa Monica. Graduating with a B.A. in political science from UCLA in June. Avid surfer.

"I was involved with the best skateboard team in the world for the time. We helped popularize skating more than anything else. You need heroes, you need fantasy—we provided that . . . I reached the height of media, the interview at the top. Now all I want to do is travel and go surfing."

## DENIS SHUFELDT

THEN: Notable among the early La Costa downhill and slalom elite, especially for his graceful body fairings. Color commentator for televised skate competition.

NOW: Age 29. Volvo salesman, San Diego. Seeking employment in sports announcing, children's programming, TV commercials, etc.

"I liked the purist aspect, man versus the hill . . . I'd like to see skating become more available so everybody can see how dynamic it is. It's not dead by any means."



Thornhill, January, 1976. La Costa.

BOLSTER

## LAURA THORNHILL

THEN: Placed first in majority of women's events during mid-70's. Women's winner, first SKATEBOARDER Readers' Poll (1978).

NOW: Age 19. Freshman, El Camino Junior College, Torrance, California. Recreational skier, skater.

"I was one of the first girls to really get in there. I had a good time in contests, winning a lot . . . It's a great sport; I hope it stays around."



BOLSTER



SMITH

Weaver, Leucadia (October, 1976, and February, 1980).

## GREGG WEAVER

THEN: First place bowlriding, 1976 Carlsbad Hang Ten Championships. Cover skater, Vol. 2 #1. Emulated during mid-70's for his surf style street and pool riding.

NOW: Age 19. Carpenter, Leucadia, California.

"What I remember most is cruising with friends, traveling and meeting people . . . The sport's pretty radical these days. The kids are definitely ripping . . . I mostly just street skate now to keep in shape."



BOLSTER



COON

Yandall, cruising Pacific Beach (1975) and on the terminals (1980).

## CHRIS YANDALL

THEN: A.k.a. Chris Yandell. First place slalom, 1975 Bahne Cadillac Nationals. Major slalom competitor throughout mid-70's. Occasional contributing author to SKATEBOARDER. Promoted skating in Detroit area through parks and competition during the late 70's.

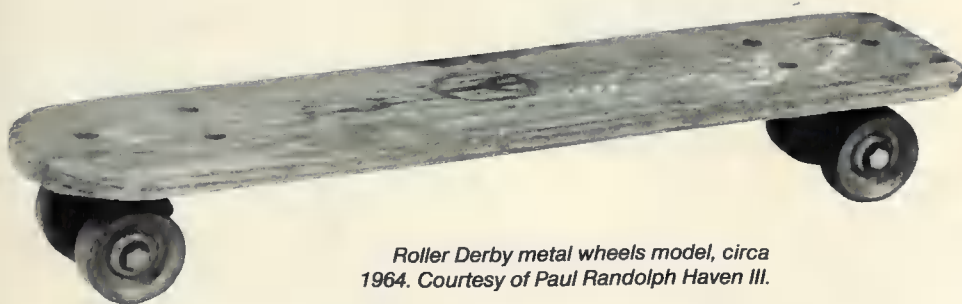
NOW: Age 25. Manager, Dynamic Sports Unlimited (a skate wholesaler), Detroit, Michigan. Publishing editor, Wall Skate Journal, a local skate paper. Graduating in June from computer school. Plans career as systems analyst.

"Skateboarding is definitely not dead. We've established the roots—we've got to keep watering them and they'll grow. By '85, barring nuclear holocaust, skatin' will be back and socially acceptable."





*Hobie team, 1965.*



*Roller Derby metal wheels model, circa 1964. Courtesy of Paul Randolph Haven III.*

*Jacks team, 1965.*



(continued from page 31)

pioneered a multitude of advanced techniques and generally done the job right while under fire. He's dominated the first coming, led the second, and quite probably will be a factor in any future ones. Torger's choice to create in the remote tropics away from the formalized scene is his own. Ask any legitimate pro who's ever seen him skate and they'll tell you he's still capable of competing on any level he chooses.

The existence of Torger and people like him (Dan Bearer, the Logans, the Hiltons, Bob Mohr, Tommy Ryan come quickly to mind), parallel the sport's. They are the sport in the same way that you are the sport. Skateboarding doesn't die, it evolves, as its practitioners evolve.

### **What a Lot of People Don't Want to Tell You**

The organized factions keep promoting the safe, sane aspects of skateboarding. All of that's fine, but let's face it—there's a certain thrill involved, the built-in risk factor, which makes it all fun and keeps us all honest. Why not admit it? Why not just come on out and acknowledge that the buzz derived from running down the razor's edge is what it's all about? The feeling of pushing it as far as you can and still making it. The anticipation and commitment of pushing off downhill knowing that you're going for it, make it or not.

You can try to legislate it, legalize it, and otherwise disguise it by burying it under a morass of regulations but it's still there. It's the attitude that all skaters have (the great skaters maybe possess it just a little more). It's what propels the radical fringe; it's what makes the sport advance; it's what makes it all interesting.





Tommy Ryan, bank cruise.  
Circa 1965.

# EPISODIC DISCONTROL OR RANDOM SAMPLINGS FROM THE LIFE AND TIMES

1928-1948, or somewhere in between. Someone, it doesn't matter who, broke the apple box off the front of his skate scooter and inaugurated a new trend. Unfortunately he didn't know or didn't care, and he subsequently nailed the box back on the front.

1958 at Malibu Beach. Gidget (the movie) is just around the corner. It will be the death knell for surfing as some knew it. (Just ask the Larms at the William Morris Agency and they'll explain it to you.) The surfurbians did know and did care, and they had no use for apple crate scooters anyhow. The general consensus had it that skateboards were an accredited method for cruising out the ocean flat spells.

1962. Legions of urban types adopt the skateboard as modus operandi. Since commercial boards are unthought of and unavailable, the



Eiffel Tower skater, 1965.



Jacks team, fully crazed. 1965.





Pure Americana at the 1965 Nationals

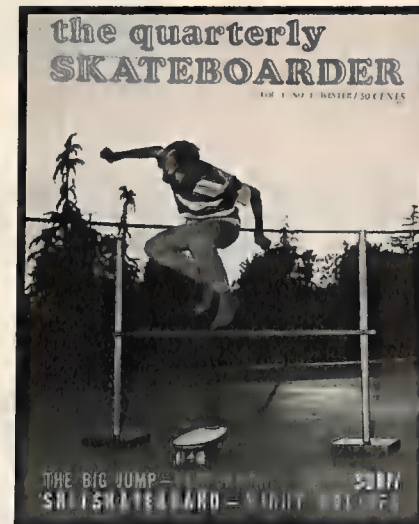
Slalom ramp, 1965 Anaheim Nationals.



would-be street skater either snags his sister's rink skates or hits a thrift store for an easy score. Anything from a Douglas fir 2 x 4 to a multi-laminated wood shop term project will do for a deck.

**1964-winter.** In view of the popularity, manufacturers have stepped into the void, (basic supply and demand) a.k.a. Skee Skate, Jacks, Roller Derby, Hobie (Super Surfer), Makaha, and Bun Buster. The first issue of the quarterly *SKATEBOARDER* appears. Much emphasis on slalom and freestyle. Tommy Ryan, Mickey Maga, Dave and Steve Hilton, Torger Johnson, Danny Bearer and Danny Schaeffer are the media stars. A couple of vague shots of the old Menlo Park swimming pool hint at the future.

**1965-spring.** Skateboarding has devolved into full fad proportions. Laws are enacted banning skateboards from the streets. The hard core develops



*SKATEBOARDER* Volume 1, # 1-4.

alternative sites. The Concourse in San Diego, Revere in Santa Monica, and the L.A. River bed are their hot spots.

**1965-summer.** The International Skateboard Championships are held in Anaheim. It is covered on all three TV networks, plus the Wide World of Sports. John Freis, Woody Woodward, Bearer, Johnson, the Hiltons, Danny Escalante, Bob Mohr, Vince Turner, Denis Shufeldt, Laurie Turner and Colleen Boyd, and the Logans are all very much in evidence.

**1965-fall.** San Diegan girl trickrider Pat McGee is on the cover of *Life Magazine* and later teaches Johnny Carson how to skate on "The Tonight Show." The Eiffel Tower is declared off-limits to skaters in Paris.

*SKATEBOARDER Magazine* citing lack of interest, ceases publishing.

**1967.** With skateboarding now officially a thing of the past, serious



skaters now find the legal heat dissipated. Coastal skaters concentrate on banks and more vertical terrains. The trend towards short boards in surfing is echoed in skating. New moves are mastered including side slips, controlled drifts, 180-plus cutbacks, edge turns, etc.

1969. Skateboarding has now advanced to the total underground phase. Cylindrical pipes are found and ridden. Backyard pool sessions are beginning to rise. You can't even find skateboards on the close-out counters in cheap toy stores. It's a very healthy period with its practitioners removed far enough from both the sport's past and its future that conceptual sanity prevails. There is *no* talk of professionalism.

1972. Leucadian surfer Frank Nasworthy takes note of the urethane roller rink wheels available and begins trying to adapt them to skateboarding.

same again. The Z-Boys arrived and blew everyone out including themselves. The contest structure didn't quite know how to deal with any of it. Survivors of the melee included Russ Howell, Tom Sims, the Logan Brothers, T. Johnson, Skitch Hitchcock, W. Woodward, Ty Page, Alva, Adams, Peralta, Chris Yandall, Danny Trailer, etc.

every garage."—Russ Howell.

1976-summer. John O'Malley and Jack Graham open the Carlsbad Skatepark. Television, in its electronic wisdom, offered that "Skateboarders finally have a place of their own." The Mt. Baldy Pipeline is exposed in print, giving birth to the legend of the



Roller Derby with clay wheels, circa 1965.  
Courtesy of Dennis Coffee, M.D.



1973. Nasworthy is now in business and he is personally delivering Cadillac wheels to the few surf shops who are intelligent enough to recognize a good thing. Frank's efforts are appreciated by the entire new generation of skaters which has been developing during the void. The die-hards and the neophyte veterans in turn inspire countless new adherents.

1974. The general public and press are calling skateboarding reborn. The law's calling it illegal. The skaters are calling it a Renaissance. At Revere in the north and La Costa in the south, the lines of demarcation are forming.

1975-summer. **SKATEBOARDER** resumes publication. Getting vertical is the new riff. The Bahne Cadillac Contest is held in Del Mar and it marks the first public interaction of the old guard and the neo elite. Freestylers met vertmen and no one was ever quite the

1975-fall. The equipment begins to catch up with the sport. Vertical riding is full bore. New pyrotechnicians such as Murray Estes, Alva, Peralta, Gregg Weaver, Brian Parry, Brian Woodruff and Scott Williams show others the way via the magazine. Kenny Means pioneers the shoe skate approach. The elite apply high performance surfing maneuvers to concrete and coping with ease.

1976. Poolriding is by now an established sport within itself. Gunnar Haugo has a list of every rideable pool in Southern California which he is unwilling to share. Guy Grundy sets a speed record of 50.3 mph for the *Guinness Book of World Records*. Revere, Bellagio, Vermont, the Toilet Bowl, the Super Bowl, the reservoir, Kona Bowl, and countless other spots are busted permanently. Symptomatic quote: "If elected I'll put two boards in

Badlands. Waldo Autrey, Bob Biniak, Mike Weed and Kevin Anderson are pictorial pioneers in the concrete tube. Symptomatic quote: "I think it's all going to happen between now and 1980."—T. Sims.

1976-December. Sam Puccio, a 224-pound longshoreman, wins the Signal Hill Speed Trials by going 54 mph on a crudely fashioned 2 x 4 skate sled. No one knows what to think.

1977-February. Son of kickflip. After winning the overall World Professional Title in the Hang Ten Championships in Park Carlsbad, Tony Alva steps to the forefront of the media menagerie. Alva exhibited a unique skating style and an even more alien manner of dealing with people. In his **SKATEBOARDER** interview, T.A., a.k.a. Maddog, etc., managed to say something to offend almost everyone. But the kids, they all understood? Quotes: "Whenever you





SKATEBOARDER Volume 2, #1.



The father of modern-day skateboarding,  
Frank Nasworthy.



Danny Trailer on water-ski skate. La Costa,  
B.S. (Before Shoes).

Torger Johnson, two-foot nose wheelie.  
La Costa, October, 1975.



step into a pool, it's a total competitive atmosphere." . . . "A class among gruel." . . . "I don't do anything for free."—T.A.

1977-April. King James, Queaver and Doug Schneider successfully infiltrate a high security government pipe project. Their portrayal of 22-foot high line sections causes turmoil in the ranks. Future shock.

1977-July. The Arizona Desert 22-foot pipes of Biscuit Flats are penetrated. The general action level of the sport is so expanded that high-speed sequence cameras are now mandatory to freeze the action.

The sport's public image hits a new high (?), as the immortal (just ask him) Ty Page is depicted on Blammo Bubblegum cards. Parks are now nationwide. The fever is out of control. The D.T. Boys issue their challenge to the world. Flashy skating and incredible tales fly. It might be insanity, it might be love, it might be confusion. Illustrative quote: "Everything I've said about myself is the truth . . . it even amazes me sometimes."—Waldo Autrey.

SKATEBOARDER Mag goes monthly.

1977-fall. The Upland Park opens, offering the first tubular park terrain. The newer parks give birth to newer stars. The Badlands clan and, elsewhere, others like Inouye and Strople begin to really break out, while Bobby Piercy brings glamour, shuck and jive to slalom. Representative quotes: "When fun is outlawed, only the outlaws will have fun."—Warren Bolster. "I don't do anything that's easy."—Ty Page. "I only look at the pictures."—Tom Inouye.

The Rampage Ramp inspires a continent to shop for plywood at night.

Quote of the moment: "You've got to learn how to roll before you take the fall."—Curtis Hesselgrave.

1977-78-winter. While the Southern California kids were involved in the much-celebrated Dogtown vs. Down South challenge, Dr. Rick Blackhart emerged from Willow Glen, a suburb of San Jose, California, to assume his place in history. Armed with comments like, "I'll ride with anyone just to prove they're no one," Ricky quickly established himself as the new darling of the underground. Organized media events as the Catalina Classic and the Freeformer Akron, Ohio, spectacle sought to portray skateboarding as the sport next door. Quotes: "It's really an entertaining family type of sport."—Mike Williams. "My skating, surfing and dancing help my love life."—Bobby Piercy.

1978-spring. On the Axis Front: Kirk Talbott, Jerry Valdez, Brad Bowman,

(continued on page 47)



Tony Alva, Jay Adams, and other Z-Boys transferred their Revere/Belagio nurtured energy to the banks of Hawaii's Waialae the winter of 1976, leaving a lasting impression on the local skate populace.

# FOCUS



WILSON







(Left)  
Gregg Weaver applied many stylistically inspired lines to the smooth undulations of nearby Carlsbad Skatepark in the fall of 1976

(Right)  
A pool in Foxtail Park, just outside of Santa Monica, may well have been the first ever carved on a skateboard. March, 1965.

(Below)  
In the fall of 1975, Skitch Hitchcock's older brother Garrison debuted this early fairing in the Hang Ten Pro-Am, Los Angeles Sports Arena.



STONER



MALDONADO









Poolriding may not have been an art in 1965, but it was a sure stoke for a small group of Pacific Palisades/Santa Monica surf skaters. Foxtail Park pool.

**SkateBoarder**  
MAGAZINE





Wildman Waldo Autrey captured the attention and imagination of a multitude of skaters in March 1977, when the first photos of the "Desert Pipes" were published in SKATEBOARDER. Actually located in the vicinity of the Lake Pleasant, Arizona (inset), along the route of a monumental water project, these 20-foot pipe segments led the way to some of the sport's most dynamic skating to date.

12-12-77  
12-12-77









Lee Gajmer, an early Badland verticalist, burned the walls of the Mt. Baldy pipeline in the summer of 1977.





T.A., Revere. 1975.



Craig Chashtney, San Juan pool. October, 1975.

Overview, 1975 Del Mar Nationals.



(continued from page 38)

Dave Hackett, the Albas, Dunlap, Tay Hunt, Pineapple, Kim Cespedes, George Orton, Dennis Martinez, and Rodney Jesse form the nucleus of the New Wave. T.A. goes commercial and employs a high-fashion photographer to shoot his ads. The sport reaches a new pinnacle in public derangement as "artist" Leroy Neiman rips off a photo from the mag and turns it into a plastic coated serving mat for Burger King.

## ■ And in the Arena

Aerospace polycarbonate ramps are seen in parades and in the middle of sports arenas. The sport of the future is offered as halftime entertainment. Thirteen-year-old Scott Senatore begins plans for a "real" ramp.

1978-summer. The first SKATEBOARDER Poll is held. For the record the top ten were: Alva, Inouye, Adams, Peralta, Weaver, Page, Biniak, Autrey, Piercy, Howell, in that order. Quote: "He's gonna be a hard act to follow."—Warren Bolster. The first Hester Pro Bowl contest is held. For the record the top ten were: Alba, Weed,

Olson, Dunlap, Ayres, Pineapple, Marker, Cathey, Hawks, Martinez, in that order. Quote: "It was a long time coming."—Henry Hester.

Alva, in view of the preceding input, gets an unprecedented second SKATEBOARDER interview and proceeds to disgorge some more of his highly volatile views. *Disclaimer:* "This interview contains drugs, sex and censored four letter words and may be harmful to anyone unable to distinguish fact from personal opinion." Get the picture?

## ■ On The Road:

Traveling emissaries take the sport to the world. Bob Skoldberg leads the Hobie team on a tour of the continent. Weed, Hitchcock and Nadalin skate the Eiffel Tower. (It again becomes illegal.) Peralta travels to the remote tropical wilderness to bring the sport to the natives. Hal Jepsen is along to film it. (He's still working on the film.) Somewhere along the way they discover Alan Gelfand (we'll later wish they hadn't when he talks us all into the intensive care ward).





T.A., 1977 Carlsbad-Hang Ten overall champion.

BOLSTER



Bob Jarvis, Carlsbad. 1976.

BOLSTER

1978-fall. After being born on Baldy, nurtured in the L-Pool and maturing at El Parke de Hoffy, a.k.a. Upland, the Badlands Boys step to the forefront. They are welcomed by the establishment who recognize their apparent skating ability as well as what they considered to be more workable social demeanor. Fortunately, as all who knew them already knew, they were normal skaters subject to the usual sorts of abnormal behavior. If you doubt it, check out Muckus some time. Quote: "I guess you could say we have a little more class."—Rick Howell.

Ransom, Evans and Hawks promptly rip off the top three places in a couple of banked slalom contests just to get everyone's attention. They had it already.

1978-pre-winter, end of year wrap-up. It was the business as unusual period. Team switching ran rampant and everyone either, a) had a new car, b) was burying one, or c) had just wrecked one. There was much talk of the big dollar. Things were so strange that when a European multi-millionaire



appeared on the scene to apostolize the masses through skateboarding, everyone took him at his word. At the time, the fact that he was in the plastic car dashboard molding business didn't matter to anyone. Ever wonder whatever happened to him and all the people like him? Quote: "I consider myself a professional athlete."—Steve Cathey.

The Hester Series is now an entity to reckon with. In Number Three, Olson, Duniap, Alba, Valdez and Blackhart are the top five.

The Annual Signal Hill Speed rituals are won by Roger Williams of Huntington Beach, who ran 59.92 mph in a skate car. Santa Cruzan Hutson



captured the standing division at 53.45 mph. A large crowd (5,000 plus) witnessed bloody accidents and industry insiders wondered aloud if this was to be the last such event.

Valdez begins continued inverted airs. Commercialism is in high gear. Even the name Dogtown becomes trademarked. Wide boards, inspired by grassroots innovators as Humpston, Haugo, Muir, Ick, are making heavy inroads into the market.

Olson wins the Hester Series. Quote: "The nightlife was better than the contests."—Steve Olson. Alba, Blackhart, Dunlap and Valdez are right behind him. Blackhart scores an interview and proves to the mothers of America that skaters are athletes by accident. Quotes: "You gotta find all the lines you can." . . . "I think I've been held back by manufacturers." . . . "There's not enough skate groupies, that's all I have to say."—R.B.

*Skateboard Mania*, the short-lived stage show, lives shortly. The infamous death loop has been demoted by the addition of safety rails. For posterity,

Day, Harvey "Rabbit" Hawks, Mike "Speed" Weed, Curt "Scar" Kimbel, Chris "Baby Face" Larson and Roy "Hawaiian Connection" Jamieson all dress up in gangster suits and go commercial. Quote: "All Bad Companies come with chrome decals and high-gloss black finishes."—Uncle Norbert.

Aerials are the topic of everyone's consideration. Floridian amateur Alan Gelfand gains the attention of all aware beings with his ollie pops and no-handed ollie aerials.

1979-spring. A "new" consciousness is evident. Peralta gains interview number two and he reveals the balanced perspective of life as a top pro.

Lonnie Toft, reveals the attitude of the designer/skater. "I'm not into terrorizing or radicalism and nazis and going into hotels and kicking down walls and pulling at waitresses' dresses . . . I've got better things to do."

Bongo, a most unforgettable character, relates, "I could talk the devil into going to heaven with me if I tried

Ty Page, kick-flip. Torrance, June, 1977.



BOLSTER

Wenzel Rumel, Belagio. Circa 1975.

STECYK



CASSIMUS

Sam Puccio on his skate luge. Signal Hill, June, 1976.

Duane Peters has already made the loop with no bars, etc., to mar the accomplishment. Glitter spacesuits are worn by all cast members. At the show's conclusion the producers admit they were wrong and that they should have listened to the skaters. Unrelated quote: "It's all possible."—Chris Strophle.

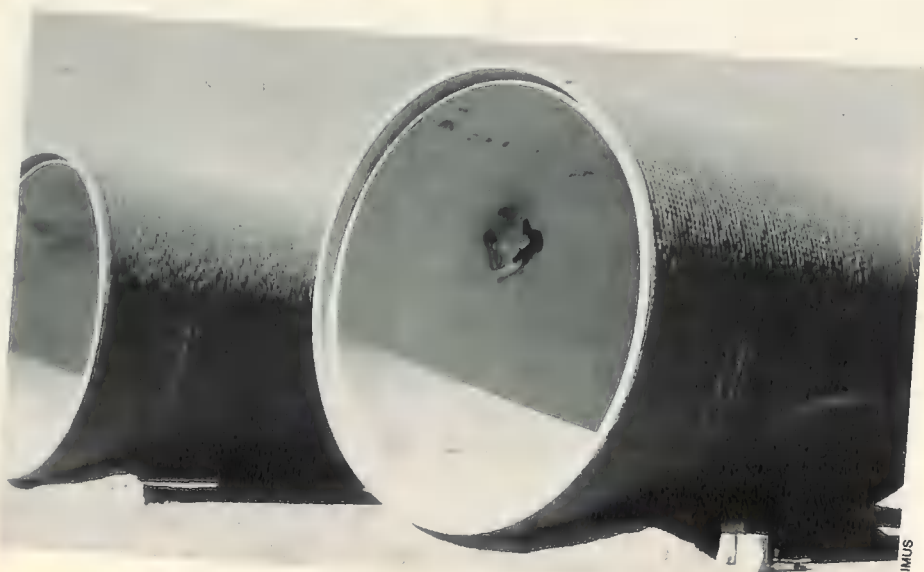
1979. The beginning. Devo appears on "Saturday Night Live" wearing safety gear. Quote: "We're just punks."—Evans and Ransom. Roller skating is raving. A plane load of California pros gets too friendly in "the friendly skies" on their way to the Texas Championships. People wonder if Dogtown's dead or has just mutated into a different form. Steve "Pretty Boy"





Dave Hackett, exploring the potential of Suspenders. Reseda, August, 1977.

GOODRICH



Doug Schneider, S.O. pipes. November, 1976.

CASSIMUS

hard enough." And he was probably right since he talked us into interviewing him.

In a last-ditch attempt to recapture the spirit of the lost frontier, King James, Sam Fernando, Alba, Schneider and Dr. Blackhart borrowed somebody's mother's car and the magazine credit card and ventured south of the border to some immense pipes beneath an abandoned missile base. Upon their return, they all got hair cuts and dye jobs in homage to the new age.

*1979-summer.* The new crop, the old crap? For the ages, the Poll winners were: Olson, Alva, Alba, Pineapple, Valdez, Kubo, Blackhart, Strople, Adams, Inouye, in that order.

Pro Bowls of the period find fortune favoring the newest of the brave. Talents like Kevin Reed, Peter Gifford, Micke Alba, David Hackett, Scott Parsons, Dave Andrecht, Bert LaMar, Eric Grisham, Ray Rodriguez, Jay Smith, Dennis Agnew, Brad Bowman, Darrell Miller, D. Martinez, Art Dickey, Ray Diez, A. Gelfand, M. McGill, Jim Martino, D. Peters, Scott Foss, Steve Caballero, Steve Anderson, Eddie Elguera, Steve Hirsch, et al., all move into contention. The amateurs are starting to move into competitive conflict and are holding their own.

*1979-fall.* Laybacks are way laid; rock 'n roll has become a basic maneuver. The ability gaps between different areas is almost non-existent, due to interplay on the competitive circuit. The North/South/East/West rivalries, while still present, seem to be merging into a continental skate community. Quote: "The amateurs—they're really putting their butts on the line."—Steve Alba.

Benito Schwartz and King James dispatch themselves to Europe in search of the Daily Planet view. Scandinavia, Europe, England, etc., prove to be hot beds of varied activity. Talk is in the air regarding a true world contest. The "foreigners" are surprisingly adept at slalom and freestyle besides the expected bowlriding.

Uncoincidentally, back on the home front, slalom comes to L.A.'s skid row (after a temporary fade-out from its previously higher visibility). Freestyle, particularly in the South and East, pushes to new heights.

*1979-end of the decade.* Duane Peters upsets the pack and the expectations of the media-fed experts at Whittier, and proves that in pro competition today anybody's rear end is perpetually up for grabs. The days of "one star" domination appear to be permanently banished. To prove his mettle, Duane begins giving crew cuts to anyone he can grab.

Devo, skateboarding's house band, are revealed to be contra-insurgent



skaters from Ohio. Ted One is revealed to be skate aware. Olson starts practicing with his new band, bearing an appropriately gross name. Bowman gets into the leather fetish. Pineapple gets all the way down. BMX is a full-on staple at the nation's parks. Jay Adams, after waiting five years, gives his big interview and then "quits skating, officially." Shuirman and LeMons officially retire from this world.

The decade's contest gig burns to a close-out in Upland. The Hester Series Number Two is decided and the top ten are: M. Alba, Elguera, Andrecht, Grisham, Gifford, Peters, S. Alba and Miller (tie), Parsons, LaMar, Bowman, in that order.

Board technology is in an ultra-light direction. Everyone's eyeing the eighties.

Skating influenced surfing. Buttons, 1979.



John Hutson, downhill's best ever. First place, 1978 Signal Hill Races (Standing Class).



1980. Surfing, once an influence on skating, now is copying. Concrete created moves are the "big" hits in professional surfing.

Bowman comes out of the closet and onto the front page. Tastefully punk? Perhaps not, but with commentary such as, "I'd like to be treated like a king," who really knows?

The magazine explores alternative energy taps.

*LIFE* Magazine photo documents the Turning Point Ramp.

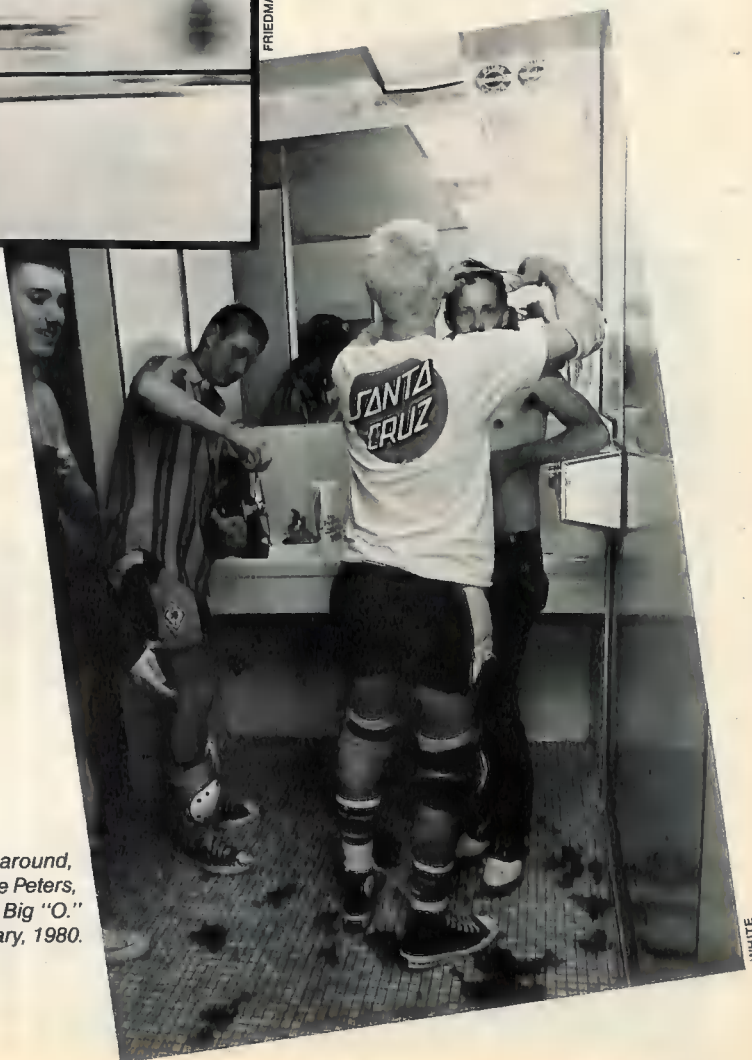
Hal is still working on "THE" movie.

Pineapple drops his hydraulics in public.

The world awaits the massive **SKATEBOARDER** Awards Banquet number three.

The eighties . . . whether you're for it or not, you're in it. One more thing . . . don't read this article. Watch for our sequel to this tale, "Classic Scammers," a sad but true epic narrative dealing with all of the people who have been involved with the sport for no apparent reason. ☹

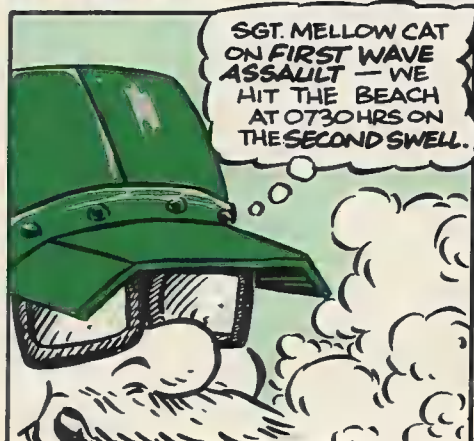
"What comes around, goes around." Duane Peters, clipping the crew at Big "O." February, 1980.





# Mellow Cat<sup>®</sup> BY TED RICHARDS

©1980 BY TED RICHARDS  
MUST LEATHERMAN AND  
SKATEBOARDER MAGAZINE



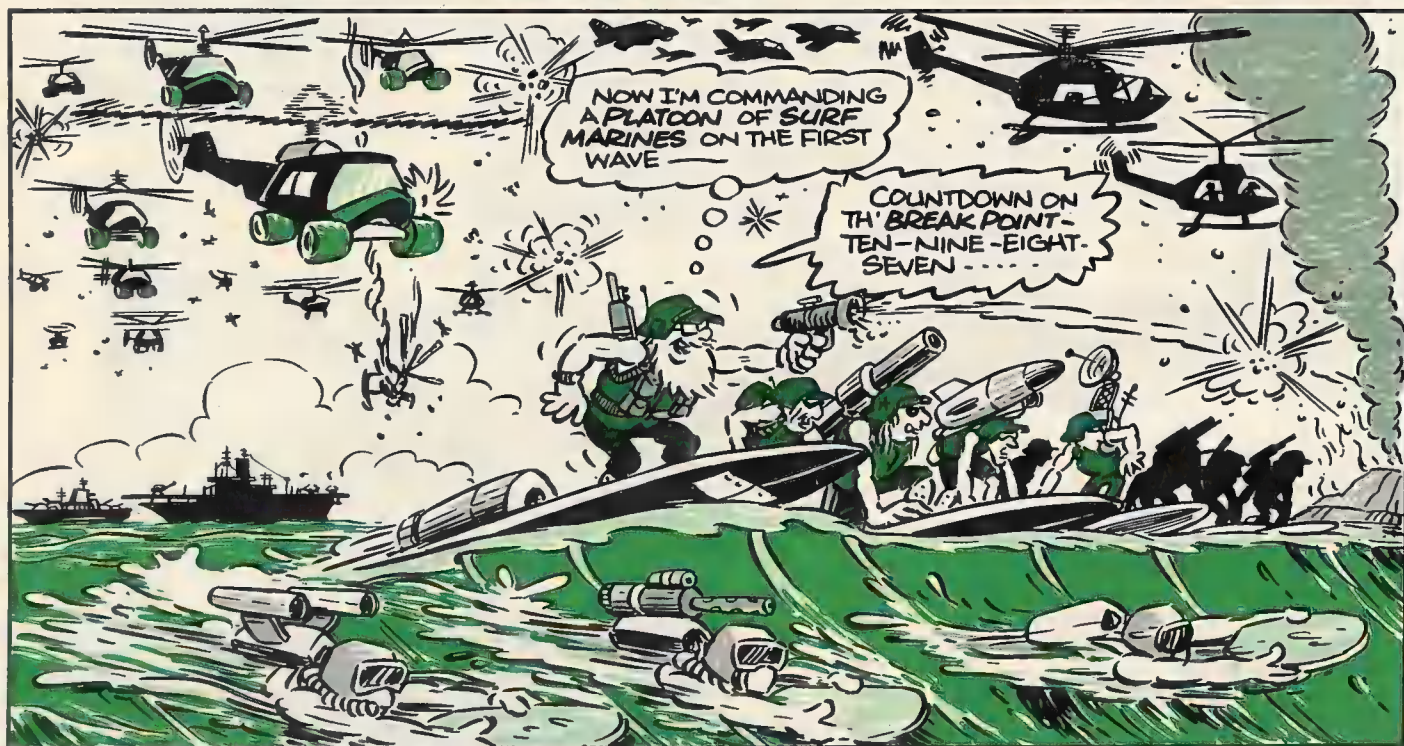
SGT. MELLOW CAT  
ON FIRST WAVE  
ASSAULT — WE  
HIT THE BEACH  
AT 0730 HRS ON  
THE SECOND SWELL.



(WHEW) WHEN THEY  
SAID THEY'D BRING  
BACK THE DRAFT,  
I THOUGHT THEY MEANT  
BEER — NOT A TOTALLY  
WEIRD OIL WAR —



THEN THEY REALLY  
WEIRDED OUT AND ENDED  
UP DRAFTING EVERYONE  
OVER THIRTY YEARS OLD...

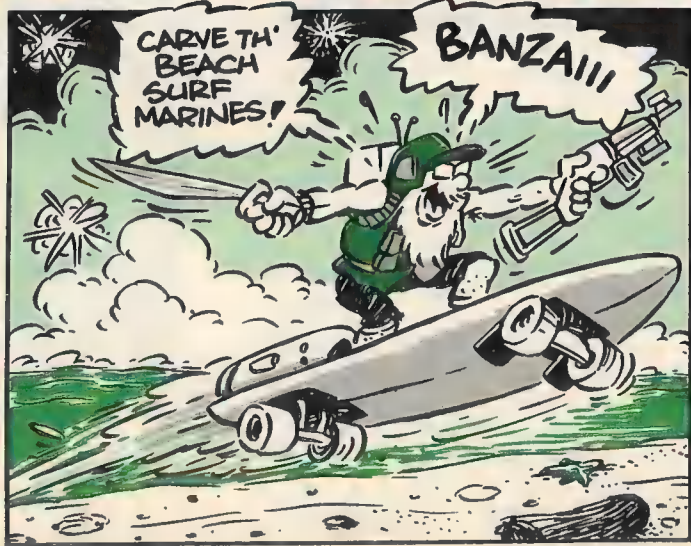


NOW I'M COMMANDING  
A PLATOON OF SURF  
MARINES ON THE FIRST  
WAVE

COUNTDOWN ON  
TH' BREAK POINT—  
TEN—NINE—EIGHT—  
SEVEN —



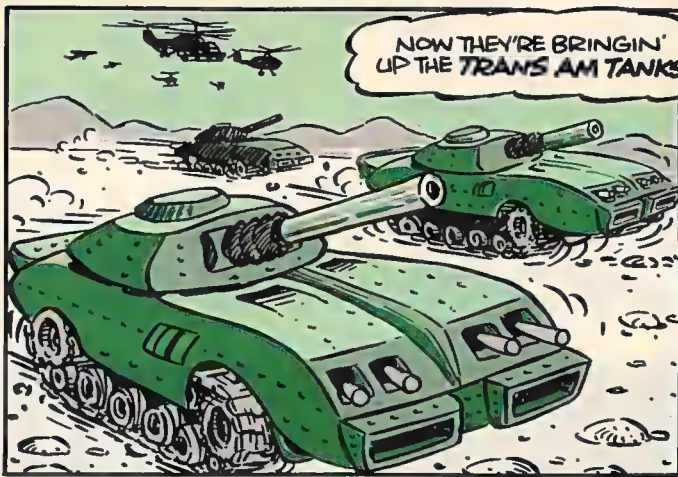
THEY DRAFTED ALL US "OLDIES" 'CAUSE  
THEY FIGURED WE'D WANT THE OIL BAD ENOUGH  
TO FIGHT FOR IT— EXCEPT FOR ALL THE  
NEW WEVERS— THEY WERE DRAFTED TO  
PLAY FIGHT SONGS —



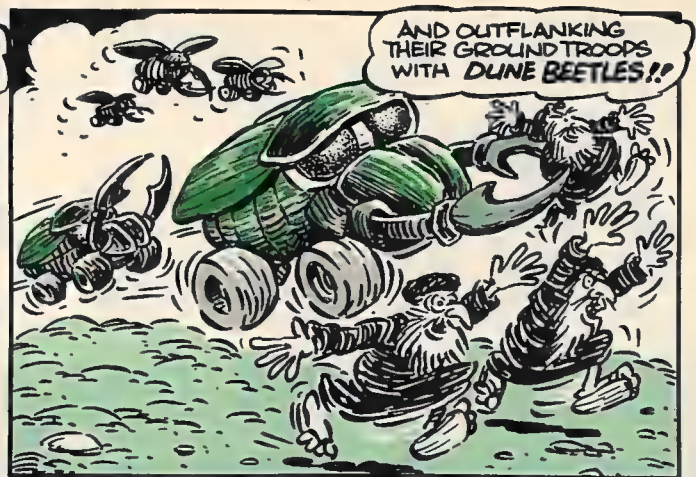
CARVE TH'  
BEACH  
SURF  
MARINES!

BANZAI!!!

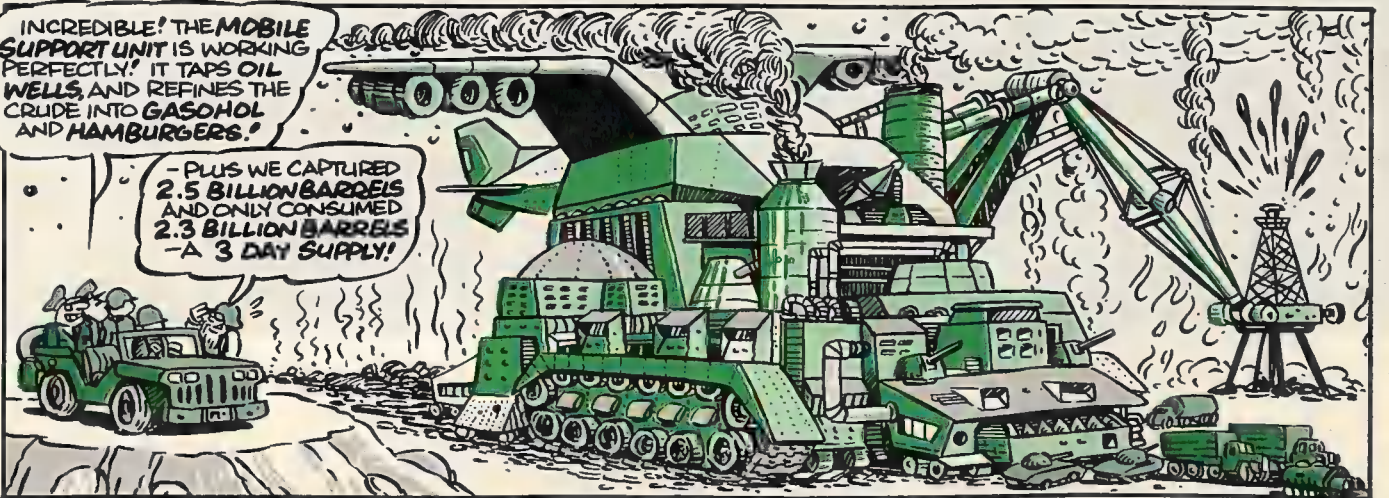




NOW THEY'RE BRINGIN' UP THE TRANS AM TANKS.

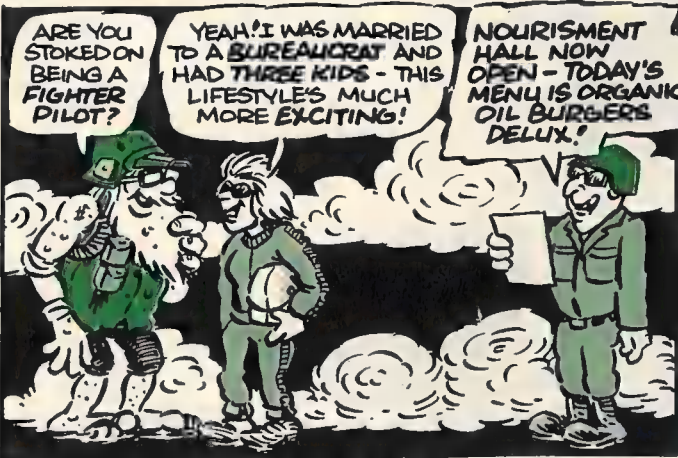


AND OUTFLANKING THEIR GROUND TROOPS WITH DUNE BEETLES!!



INCREDIBLE! THE MOBILE SUPPORT UNIT IS WORKING PERFECTLY! IT TAPS OIL WELLS, AND REFINES THE CRUDE INTO GASOLINE AND HAMBURGERS!

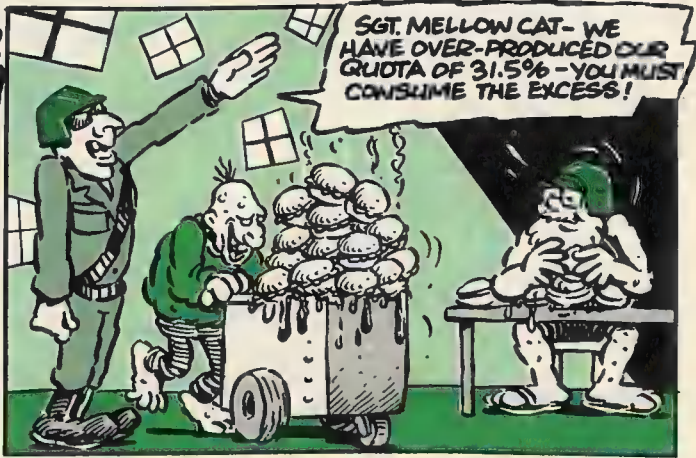
- PLUS WE CAPTURED 2.5 BILLION BARRELS AND ONLY CONSUMED 2.3 BILLION BARRELS - A 3 DAY SUPPLY!



ARE YOU STOKED ON BEING A FIGHTER PILOT?

YEAH! I WAS MARRIED TO A BUREAUCRAT AND HAD THREE KIDS - THIS LIFESTYLE'S MUCH MORE EXCITING!

NOURISHMENT HALL NOW OPEN - TODAY'S MENU IS ORGANIC OIL BURGERS DELUX!



SGT. MELLOW CAT - WE HAVE OVER-PRODUCED OUR QUOTA OF 31.5% - YOU MUST CONSUME THE EXCESS!

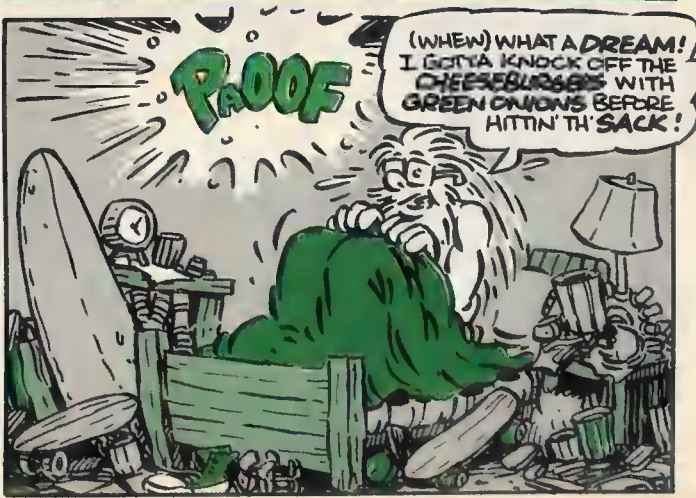


HERE-TRY A CRUDE SHAKE

THEY'RE YUM!

BORD

GUR-ORD! WHOA HEY! MOAN NO! NO!



PROOF

(WHEW) WHAT A DREAM! I GOTTA KNOCK OFF THE CHEESEBURGERS WITH GREEN ONIONS BEFORE HITTING THE SACK!



# Classic Cruisers

by Leon Dixon

Cruisers. How did the term originate? Where did the bikes come from? A lot of folks young and old are asking these questions today... and that's good. Why? Because it's a sure sign they're catching onto a fun hobby and recreation that's gonna be around for a long, long time.

Before we check out the beginnings of cruiser bikes, we need to define the term. What is a "cruiser?" A few years

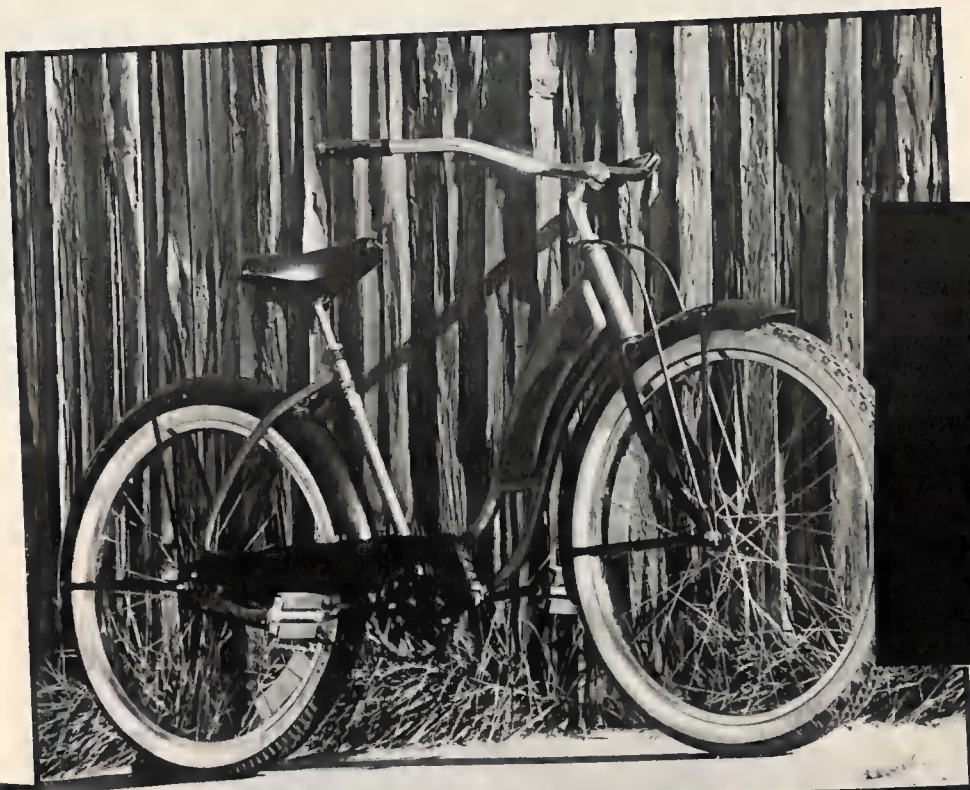
ago some unknown person coined the term, but the meaning remains rather obscure. Today "cruiser" still means nothing in particular and everything in general—nobody really seems to mean the same thing when they say the word. Simply put, a cruiser might be any balloon tire bicycle as the term is presently used, but the bikes most often called cruisers are of a basic frame and wheels variety. All too often such bikes are confused with "classic" originals. Even worse, true classics are

sometimes destroyed to make beach cruisers, mountain bikes, and various other highly modified balloonies. This doesn't mean that the modified jobs and beach cruisers don't have their place—on the contrary! Such bikes are important and represent a growing field of interest in biking. Still, one should never confuse the modified balloonies with original classics. Nor should salvageable classics be put up for modification—they're just too rare and hard to find these days. We won't even



1951 Schwinn "Black Phantom" bike.



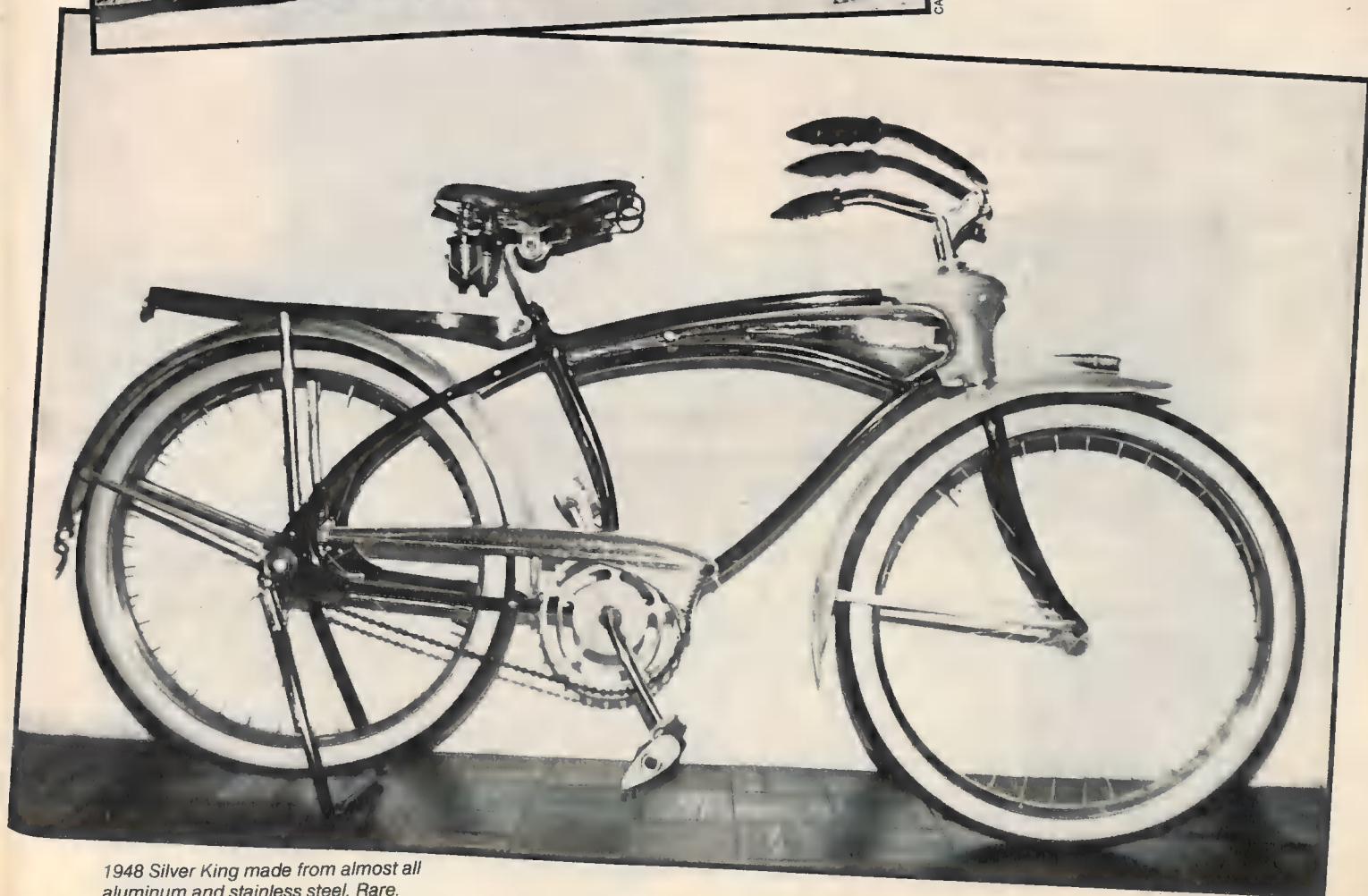


1939 obscure, fully restored cruiser. From the collection of Mr. and Mrs. H. Allen Seymour II.

mention the prices for an original classic. Classics, especially the deluxe jobs, should be saved at all cost and such things as original paint, headlights, taillights, hornlamps, etc., are really important parts of the classic.

Many newcomers to the world of cruisers are unaware of the fact that modern day cruisers are a far cry from classic originals. No self-respecting bicycle company would have ever offered a bike without fenders during the classic era. This was something that

CASSIMUS

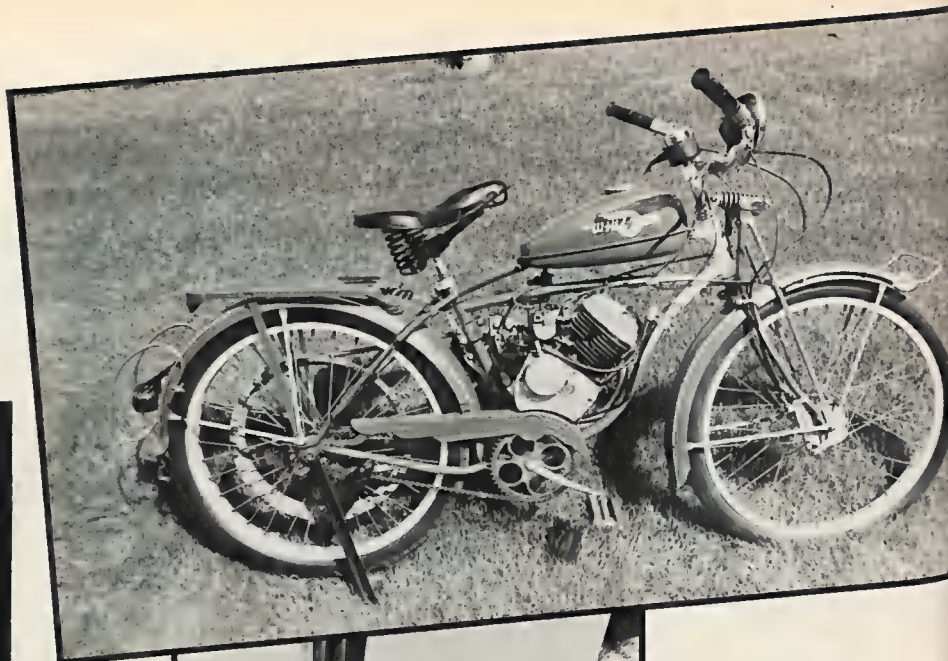


1948 Silver King made from almost all aluminum and stainless steel. Rare.



just wasn't done, anymore than having a car without fenders. The fenderless fad came along as a result of kids in the 1940's and 1950's who whipped the 'ol fenders off and "souped" the bike into a modified job, perhaps imitating dad's hot-rod car. The practice lay dormant until recent years when beach cruisers, BMXers, strand cruisers, choppers, beaters, mountain bikes and what have you emerged on the scene.

In any event, the classic era in bicycles ran from about 1920 to 1965



*New Schwinn beach cruiser equipped with Rolls brand super springer. The bike isn't a classic, but gives a feel of the old balloonies.*

*1952 Roadmaster "Luxury Liner" deluxe model.*





Original Whizzer "700," fully equipped.

and included single tube, balloon and middleweight tire bikes. Middleweights carried slightly smaller tires and aren't generally as old as the ballooners, but many still came with exciting features such as springforks, tanks, horns, lights, etc. Heyday for ballooners was in the middle of their 1932 to 1958 era, although these bikes still remain the most popular of the classics. Prior to the balloonier came the single tube jobs which today are extremely difficult to restore because of the lack of proper tires.

Now that classics are drawing the recognition they deserve, a lot of folks are getting into restorations—so much so that old bikes have become a very big business for some and a serious hobby for others. Just duplicating original paint, striping, decals and chrome can run into hundreds of dollars, so it is with an appreciative eye that a classic is now viewed.

The classic bicycle involvement is contagious. Just ride one and you'll see what I mean. The relatives of the classic

Author Leon Dixon is the Editor-Publisher of CLASSIC BICYCLE & WHIZZER NEWS, a periodic newsletter (subscriptions \$7 for 6 issues by writing Box 765, Huntington Beach, CA 92648). For the serious collector/restorer or even the casual enthusiast, it's a must!

are certainly very interesting and the bike makers are pumping out new balloon models and parts as fast as they can dry the paint, so there's room for everybody to get involved. Who knows, classic bicycles and their offspring may just wind up being as popular as ... as ... as, uh, skateboards! ☺

1939 Mercury deluxe "World's Fair" model. Rare.





## SkateBoarder Interview:

*An interview with Dennis Martinez had to cut deep in skateboarding's colorful recent past, while viewing its volatile present with equal clarity.*

*A junior member of the early La Costa racing elite and a prominent threat during freestyle competition's mid-70's heyday, Dennis was nurtured in the Bahne team philosophy of the "well-rounded" skater. While few of his skating peers ever took that ideal to its obvious conclusion, to the vertical (Doug Saladino and Stacy Peralta are prominent exceptions), Dennis did well enough to emerge the popular favorite at the first Hester Pro Bowl, Spring Valley.*

*Two years later, Dennis remains an active practitioner of the skate arts, a modern skater with proud pioneer roots, a positive ambassador for the sport. About enough to make you sick? Well, fret not, for D.M. is also as thoroughly human as they come. On the dawn of the 80's, Dennis just knows what a skateboard can do and how far it can take him still.*

by B. Barreto

# Dennis Martinez

***Dennis, isn't there a school right near where you used to live where everybody used to practice freestyle and a little bank riding?***

Yeah, Bay Park. A long, long time ago, everybody used to mess around there.

***Who was that crowd?***

Layne Oaks, Steve Cathey, Pineapple, a few other skaters that you never heard of; just hot locals who never made it in the media. That was about five years ago. Team Bahne members too, like Kim Milburn, a girl, and she used to take Masami Countryman down there. It was just a local hangout, since there weren't any skateparks or anything . . . we didn't know what skateparks were. Just flatland and banks.

***So you all profited from each other?***

Yeah. Kim used to do handstands five years ago and I used to think, "God, if a girl can do that . . ." I never could do it until three years later.

***Why did they let people skate there? A lot of schools won't do that.***

Well, back then skateboarding was new to a lot of people, so they didn't know anything about it, if it was dangerous or not. They were amazed at what we were doing even then. They'd sit there and watch us and talk about it. Not until they started hearing stuff on the news, like kids getting hurt and broken bones, did they crack down. But we used to skate anyway, after hours.



***I notice you have a Town & Country patch on your shirt.***

Yeah, it was a team shirt that Darrell Kau and Craig sent me. I'm on their team.

***Are you still on their team?***

Uh . . . so and so . . . times are getting a little hard now and I don't really like to bug them for stuff, but they've given me a lot: a Larry Bertleman surfboard, shirts, T & C shorts. I mean, I can't count the stickers. I probably have about 25 packs of a hundred stickers for promotion. They've just really given me everything. They're really nice people.

***When you were riding for G & S, there was a controversy about G & S team riders putting T & C stickers on their boards, and G & S sent an edict down . . .***

Yes. It started off with my cover. Me and Doug took a trip to Hawaii when we were unknowns and we were skating with all the locals and they turned us on to T & C. Some guys, Joe and Milton and Derek, gave us shirts and stickers and we brought them back and all of a sudden we started getting hot because of Spring Valley. I put the stickers on my board. Since T & C stickers are so big, they only fit on the tail. I always have my G & S stickers in the middle and I put the T & C's on the tail. I didn't know I was going to get a cover shot and it was a tail picture, so G & S thought we weren't promoting G & S products . . .







### **And then you rode for Gullwing?**

Yeah, but I had to quit Gullwing once I got on Variflex. Variflex makes skateboard trucks, and if I don't ride theirs it makes it look like theirs aren't good enough. But their trucks are really hot; I like them. They're like riding white Phoenix trucks which I used to ride in the beginning, back in Spring Valley days.

### **How long have you been riding for Variflex?**

Since about a week before the Del Mar contest—about six months. I talked to them about it in Chicago. I went there with McIntyre for G & S, but I had a good, long talk with the Losi's and we really thought they were nice people. So a lot of stuff came down, so I just quit and rode for them. They have their stuff together, and they listen to the team. Right now they've been listening to me and Grisham and Eddie and putting us on the top. They were an unknown company and now, Variflex is one of the main, strong companies, and they're going to be there for a long time.

### **How old are you now?**

I'm twenty. I'll be twenty-one next

December, on Christmas—I just missed the first part of the draft.

### **Were you worried?**

Yeah. We got a couple houses in Mexico, though, so if it ever did break down to that, I'd be living there. We have two houses right on the beach in Baja. You just wake up and go surfing. My parents just got done building a two-story house bigger than our house here in the States, and they gave me and my older brother their old house. They're going to retire this year and go down there and live.

### **What is your ethnic background?**

Mexican-American. I have Indian in me, too, and Italian. So, I'm a greaser (laughing), or whatever. When I was on the Bahne team I was called "The Greaser." We had a minority team: blacks, Mexicans, Chinamen, Lebanese, whiteys, every kind there is. Learned to take whatever people say to me. Don't bother me . . .

### **How'd you first get into skateboarding?**

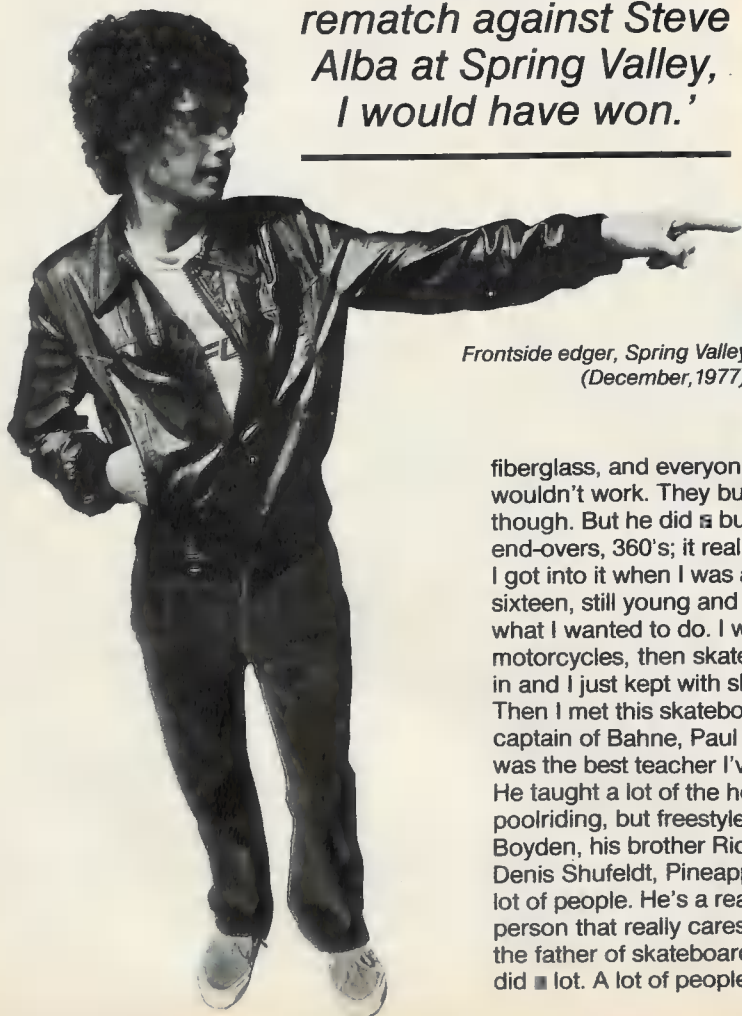
My brother used to have a wood board with Chicago trucks, clay wheels. And my cousin was into making surfboards and he made one of the first flexible boards I've ever seen—

along with him, but it was just the way he was.

### **When did you get involved in contests, and when did you get on your first team?**

I started around the end of 1975. I stole my first couple skateboards 'cause I couldn't afford them and then I got a job at Der Weinersnitzel—that was a joke, but it paid for my skateboards and stuff. My parents helped me out a lot too. A lot of parents wouldn't let kids around that age go out places for contests on their own. The first contest I entered was Ventura in '76, in February, I think, and it was the first big contest. I was on no team, I bought all my stuff, I paid for my own bus ticket. I went out with a couple of friends, Bobby Garcia, Layne Oaks and Marty Shaub, and we all stayed in a hotel, the lowest class. I think I got about twenty-something place. I was riding a Logan Earth Ski back then. I was really into the Logans, Bruce and Brian . . . all those guys were really good dudes. They gave me discounts on boards, gave me free stickers, gave me a ride home one time, that was the thrill of my life . . . having Bruce Logan take me home. All

**'If there was a rematch against Steve Alba at Spring Valley, I would have won.'**



*Frontside edger, Spring Valley (December, 1977).*



FRIEDMAN

fiberglass, and everyone said it wouldn't work. They busted on him, though. But he did a bunch of tricks like end-overs, 360's; it really blew my mind. I got into it when I was about fifteen, sixteen, still young and didn't know what I wanted to do. I was into motorcycles, then skateboarding came in and I just kept with skating everyday. Then I met this skateboard pro, team captain of Bahne, Paul St. Pierre. He was the best teacher I've ever known. He taught a lot of the hot skaters, not poolriding, but freestyle: Bobby Boyden, his brother Richard, Bob Mohr, Denis Shufeldt, Pineapple—he helped a lot of people. He's a real good person, a person that really cares. I consider him the father of skateboarding because he did a lot. A lot of people couldn't get

the teams were up at that contest, Z-Boards, Logan Earth Ski, Gordon & Smith, Bahne. I saw Paul up there and his team, and as the months went by, I got better and better, just kept entering all the contests until he might pick me up. Then one day they were having G & S "B" team (second team) tryouts. I went and tried out and they said I was going to get on, and I came back and told Paul, hinting to him because I wanted to ride for Bahne, saying, "Yeah, G & S is going to pick me up if you don't want to." So Paul goes, "Go ahead." But I didn't get on at the time.

### **So when did Bahne pick you up?**

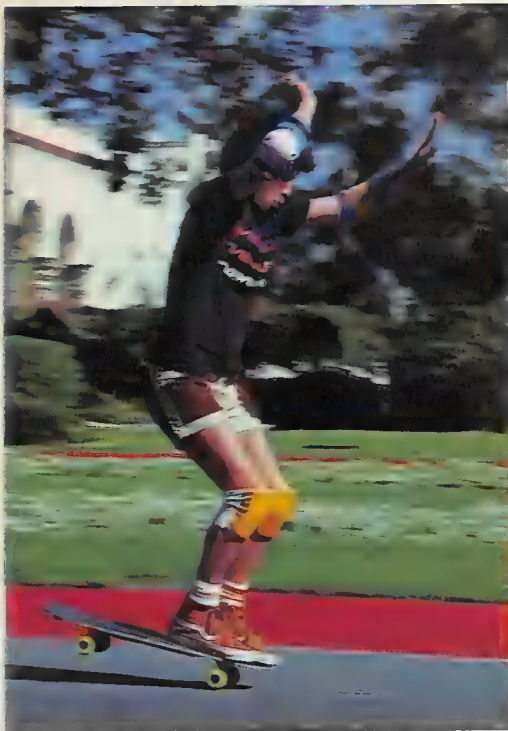
As the La Costa YMCA Contest came on I was still riding for nobody, and I was riding a 25" Kicktail Fiberflex with Bennett trucks—I used to break a lot of



Layman, Dave







Nose wheelie,  
Balboa Park.

GOODRICH

them doing kickflips. But even though I didn't ride for anybody, I totally blew everybody away. I won first in the giant slalom. I never used to be a slalom racer, but Henry Hester, Conrad, Bobby Piercy and Steve Shufeldt used to push me 'cause they were local San Diego boys. I used to go to all the Sunday races, and one time I got third place. From there I just entered the YMCA contest and beat everybody. I got third place in the cross country event, and second in freestyle. So I walked away with a first, second, and third, in boys' 14-16 year olds. When they were presenting the awards, Denis Shufeldt goes, "Well, here's a man that just walked away with three trophies and he's unattached hoping to get attached to someone." And that's when St. Pierre approached me and asked me to be on the Bahne team, well, to try out for it. That team was so together because they had team meetings, and Sunday practices, and it was like a family.

#### **How did you get your background riding pools?**

Me and Layne Oaks and others used to snake, do all the hot pools like Soul Bowl at the college (CSUSD). We used to go at two in the morning when the guard was off duty and that's when the janitor was cleaning so all the lights were on. We'd go there and sneak underneath the fence and skate the pools. We'd hear about other pools . . . the Sex Bowl . . . there's a lot of them, I can't remember the names it was so long ago. The Fish Bowl in La Mesa. Finally, the first real good park was built (in San Diego), Spring Valley, and that's when they had the Soul Bowl too. I skated there everyday. I was a total

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*'I started with freestyle, and I wanted to be a good all around skater.'*

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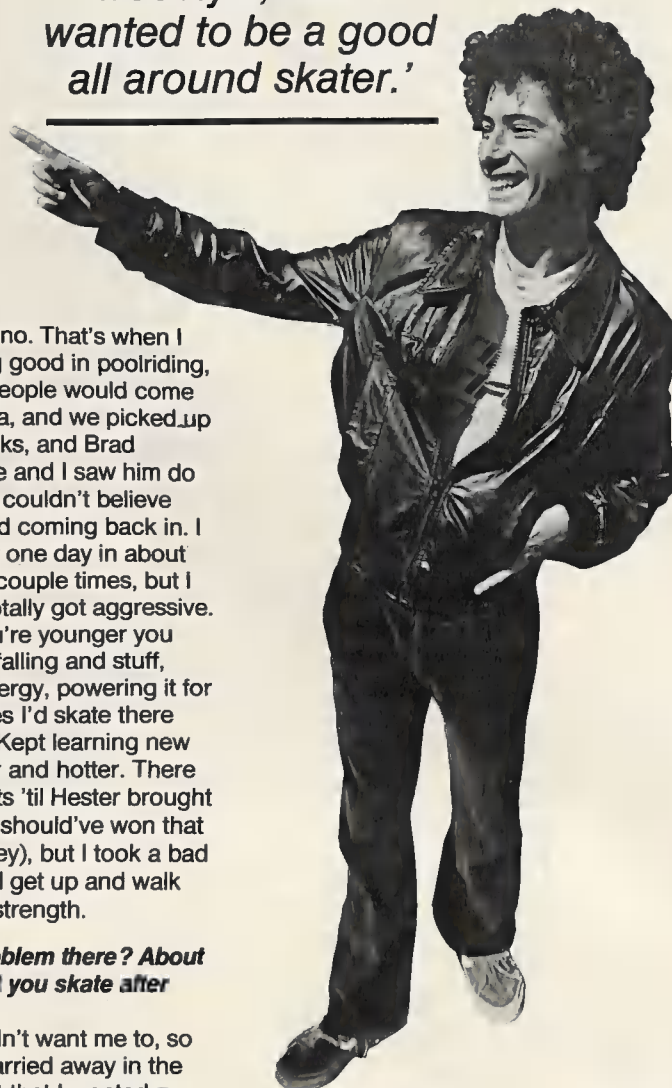
local. Me and Saladino. That's when I really started getting good in poolriding, just kept learning. People would come in from L.A., like Alva, and we picked up on some of their tricks, and Brad Bowman came there and I saw him do a frontside air. I just couldn't believe people flying out and coming back in. I learned frontside air one day in about an hour. I beefed a couple times, but I just kept doing it. Totally got aggressive. You know when you're younger you have no fear about falling and stuff, you're just full of energy, powering it for 24 hours. Sometimes I'd skate there seven hours a day. Kept learning new tricks, getting hotter and hotter. There was no pool contests 'til Hester brought the first one there. I should've won that contest (Spring Valley), but I took a bad fall. I thought I could get up and walk out but I lost all my strength.

#### **Was there some problem there? About whether or not to let you skate after falling?**

Yeah, but they didn't want me to, so when I was being carried away in the stretcher I yelled out that I wanted a rematch against Steve Alba. If there was a rematch against Steve at the time, I would've won, 'cause no one had that pool more wired than I did. But that's then, now everybody's insane.

#### **Didn't you compete in a few Oceanside contests?**

The Oceanside Freestyle contest, the last one they had, the one that Saladino won. The first day I did a perfect routine and you hardly ever see perfect routines done in freestyle. I pulled one off that day and I was in first place all the way. But when Sunday came, competition got a little harder and if you didn't do certain tricks in the contest you would lose points. You were supposed to do two upside-down maneuvers, and I did one first, and there was like five seconds and everybody was yelling at me telling me to do another one and I didn't pay attention to anybody, I just did my thing. I got out there and forgot to do it, so I lost five points, got moved back five places. It was so close that five people moved ahead, so I lost because I didn't



do a handstand or some other upside-down maneuver. I was really bummed out in that contest 'cause I skated almost as good the second day as I did the first day.

#### **What has been the most memorable contest since the Hester started? You skated a few more Hesters didn't you?**

Yeah, I skated in a lot of Hesters. The reason why I didn't skate in every one is because it's . . . hmmm . . . it's like Alba said, "If you go to every contest, you don't place high, you start to lose your name. If you just make an appearance once in awhile people are going to wonder what you're learning or what else you're up to." You enter a contest, skip a couple, just try to stay in there trying not to lose your name right away. People who enter the contests all the time, don't do well, or don't get pictures in the mag. That hurts you.

#### **How did you decide which contests you wanted to skate?**

If I like the pool or the park, or if I was feeling good, or had good vibes about





Lip slide, Oasis banks.





it, I guess. I really like the freestyle contests—they're run better than the pool contests. I never won a pool contest, but I won two freestyle contests. And they were bigger money than any poolriding contest has ever been. Plus they're bigger titles than any pool contest has ever been. I started with freestyle, and I wanted to be a good all around skater. On the Bahne team you had to be.

**During that period when there was talk about who was best—Santa Monica or San Diego—how did you react to that?**

I was into it. Because it was bringing a lot of publicity, and got a lot of the skaters' names in front of the public. When Spring Valley first opened up, all the Z-Boys came down—Jay Adams, Tony Alva, Hackett, and all of them. We already had the bowls wired, but they came in and they were shreddin'. But us D-boys were doing just as good. We had totally different styles. They were more radical, going for it more, and beefin' more than us, but we had a lot of hot skaters—Saladino, I'm sure they all say that too, and Russ Gosnell was a strong power back then, and John Winchester, Layne Oaks; I'd seen Layne ride pools and back then I thought he was the best in the world. I thought they should've really had a contest (North vs. South) though. They kept talking about one, but I guess it was all a big put-on, a show. Skaters were really getting bad vibes and we were startin' to hate each other. I'm glad all that stopped. Everybody's friends now. I'd rather skate up in L.A. sometimes than around here because I get along with Adams and all those guys.

**What other people have influenced your skating?**

I'd definitely have to start with Conrad Myoshi, he helped me out a lot. Bobby Piercy, Steve Schisler, Mike Williams, for sure; he's one of the greatest guys I know. He's a good boss, good friend, and he listens. He's not like a lot of company guys who you're just a team rider to. He cares and that's why it was real hard for me to break away from Gullwing. I had the company wired, they had me wired, got along well; I did my own thing, and they did theirs—it all worked out. Pat Flanagan, too, and Ellen Berryman. Doug Saladino too. He influenced me too, no one pushed me harder ever in my life than Doug has.

**Kind of partners?**

We were partners. As you get older you kind of get broken away. My girlfriend—she didn't take me away, but I wanted to be with her more. You get older and go your own ways, but you're still friends. We see each other at the park.

**What about parents?**

Yeah, you've got to have cool parents. Her parents are. Like, I might want to take her to a contest or something. A lot of parents wouldn't let their daughter go out, but they saw the pictures of me in the mag and knew what I was into and found out I was a good boy (laughing), so I'd take her up there. My parents too. I mean, what parents would let their kid go off really young and take all these chances? I wasn't really smart in school, but I was on the road, like how to take care of yourself, and that's where it counts. How to take care of yourself and cope with the world and handle the problems.

**Who are currently the hottest people in San Diego?**

Doug Saladino, Layne Oaks, Mike Smith, one of the amateur riders on Variflex. This little kid named Billy Ruff, is like a little Alan Gelfand, and then

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**'Skateboarding is not dangerous. I'd say more radical, different.'**

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Layback air,  
Oasis.

there's a little eight year old that rides out in Escondido. He does Elgarrio's, Miller flips. He does every trick—frontside rock 'n rolls, he rips, but I can't remember his name. Pat Weaver, a real ripper, real strong skater; there's so many skaters down there. Just everybody skating down there is good.

**You were saying that when you were young you didn't have any fear. Do you now?**

Oh, a little bit. You know, you get older and you're not as quick as you used to be. Your brain isn't functioning as fast as when you were young. That's why I'm into karate—it makes your reflexes faster. And I'd rather land on my feet than my head.

**Do you feel that skateboarding is particularly dangerous as opposed to other sports?**

Not dangerous. I'd say more radical, different. There you're playing with hard cement, bones and cement and skin. A lot of people think it's dangerous; they have it stuck in their minds that it is. But to me if you do it right and you go smooth, get more speed—the more speed you have, the easier the trick is to do. And if you learn it right, get taught right, then there should be no problems at all.

**Do you have any specific future plans or goals?**

My goal was to get my interview and get a cover on SKATEBOARDER Mag and I did that. As for future goals, I want



CASSIUS

to get an excellent job, somehow, some way; it's going to happen sooner or later. Get a good job, make good money. I want to have my own house in La Jolla, drive a Porsche or a Beamer. But, like I said, that's in the future. I wish skateboarding would one day get like tennis or football. It's just as good a sport. People like to watch it and we could make it happen.

**Any other comments?**

Yeah, I want my baby back. ☺





Frontside tail slide. Oasis.





# COMPETITION BRIEFS

## VANS / OFFSHORE ALL AMERICAN AMATEUR SERIES #4

Del Mar Skate Ranch  
January 26, 1980

### RESULTS:

Un-sponsored 11-13	Boys 11-13
1. Mark Rogowski	1. Mike Smith (Dog Town)
2. Doug Cobalis	2. Kenny Stelmasky (Vans/Gullwing)
Un-sponsored 14-15	Boys 14-15
1. Vince Paronese	1. Steve Caballero (Powell)
2. Todd Joseph	2. Neil Blender (G & S)
Un-sponsored 16-19	Men 16-19
1. Jeff Clifford	1. Geno Tocci (G & S)
2. Mark Olson	2. John Schaaf (Madrid)
Boys 10-under	Men 20-over
1. Beattie Rosecrans (Vans)	1. Brian Martin (Tracker)
2. Aaron Astorga	2. Rusty Morris (Variflex)
Girls Open	Sue Smith (Madrid)
Overall Teams	
1. Madrid (28)	—tie
Variflex (28)	
2. G & S (24)	
3. Vans (18)	
4. Powell (14)	
5. Dog Town (12)	

## 1979-80 VANS / OFFSHORE SERIES SUMMARY

Vans Shoe and Offshore Men/Women Sportswear would like to congratulate all of the competitors in the All American Amateur Series. We would like to thank all of the sponsors and parents that have supported this series and made it a great success:

ACS, Gyro Wheels, Independent Trucks, Madrid, G & S, Merrilee's of California, Tracker Trucks, Norcon, Powell, Peralta, Variflex.

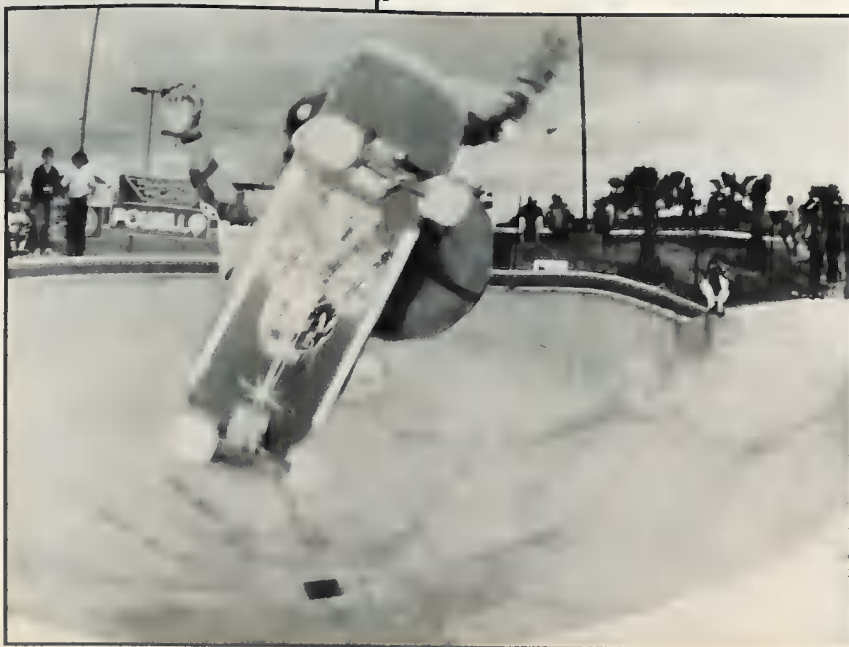
The Vans Series has gone a full season, beginning in May, 1979, and will end with



(Above)  
Ken Stelmasky pulls a handplant from his well-packed arsenal. Del Mar.

(Right)  
Although he did not place, David Zarkewski pulled off incredibly high ollies in Del Mar's Keyhole.

(Opposite page)  
Mike Smith overcame the competition at AAAS #4 and in overall series points (Boys 11-13), with multiple manic moves. Layback air.





a State Final in March, 1980. The Series started with just 54 entrants and had a high entry of 97 in one of the competitions. The other meets averaged between 60 and 80 riders.

These competitions were designed for the Advanced (3-A) skaters, and not to conflict with the ASPO Program which was set up for the Intermediate (2-A) and Novice (1-A) skaters. These programs are the testing grounds for all skaters in which to better their skating abilities and make it to the 3-A level, and possibly look forward to Pro competition.

For the 1980 season, Vans Shoes will help promote a program for the Beginning (1-A) skaters. Watch for details at your local park!

My gnarliest thanks to the owners of Vans' Shoes and Offshore Men/Women Clothing for the time, money and patience given me to help put a program out there that has brought together a dedicated field of athletes and a lot of new ideas. This program is projecting our sport forward for the future.

—**Everett Rosecrans**  
**AAA Series**  
**Event Director**  
**Explorer Post #1471**

## **(VANS/OFFSHORE) OVERALL SERIES RESULTS:**

### **Boys 10-under**

1. Beattie Rosecrans (Vans/Tracker)
2. Kele Rosecrans (Vans/Powell)
3. Ky Lambert (Variflex)
4. Jeff Ronnow (Dog Town)
5. Damon Hall (Bakersfield)

### **Boys 11-13**

1. Mike Smith (Dog Town)
2. Mike Hirsch (Variflex)
3. Allen Losi (Variflex)
4. Darrin Hoeft (Dog Town)
5. Kenny Stelmasky (Vans/Gullwing)

### **Boys 14-15**

1. Steve Caballero (Powell)
2. Mike Siegfried (Variflex)
3. Scott Foss (Powell)
4. Dave Zakrzewski (Powell)
5. Neil Blender (G & S)

### **Men 16-19**

1. Freddie DeSota (Variflex)
2. Geno Tocci (G & S)
3. John Schaaf (Madrid)
4. Dean Calvert (G & S)
5. Jim Gray (G & S)

### **Men 20-over**

1. Brian Martin (Tracker)
2. Rusty Morris (Variflex)
3. Wayne Simmons (unsponsored)
4. Damon Bush (unsponsored)
5. Ed Need (unsponsored)

### **Girls**

1. Gale Springer (O.P.)
2. Elaine Poirier (Vans)
3. Sue Smith (Madrid)
4. Joanna Fields (Marina)
5. Katrina Tena (Marina/WSA)

### **Teams**

- |             |       |
|-------------|-------|
| 1. Variflex | (142) |
| 2. Vans     | (100) |
| 3. G & S    | (72)  |
| 4. Powell   | (64)  |
| 5. Dog Town | (52)  |

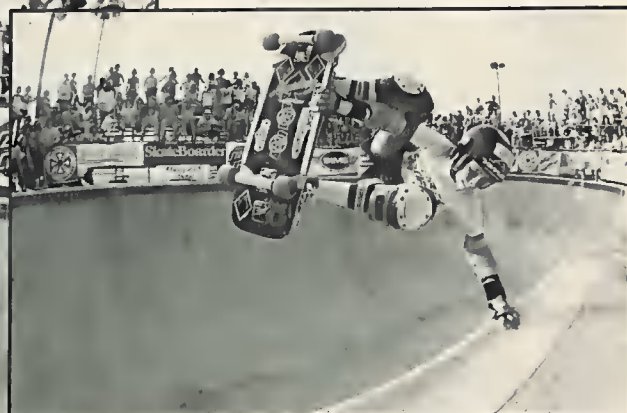
## **SPECIAL THANKS . . .**

### **SKATEBOARDER**

*Magazine would like to extend a special thanks to OFFSHORE SPORTSWEAR, VANS SHOES, and especially Everett Rosecrans, for their selfless promotion of amateur skateboard competition during the 1979-80 AAAS season!*







(Above)  
Mike Hirsch, layback air.  
(Left)  
Bob Serafin, frontside edge.  
(Below)  
Glen Schuchuk made his layback vaerial  
the move of ASPO # 4.  
(Right)  
Janice Behrman, frontside grinder.

Photography by Terrebonne.



## ASPO #4

Big O  
Orange, California  
February 2, 1980

### WINNERS:

#### CAPSULE-POOL:

Park Team 10-&-under: Robbie Wagener (SkaterCross)  
Park Team 11-12: Doug Cobalis (Colton)  
Park Team 13-14: Brian Hinson (Big O)  
Park Team 15-17: Lance Mountain (Skate City)  
Park Team Open: Rusty St. Cyr (Pipeline)  
Un-sponsored 10-&-under: Todd Drake (Carlsbad)  
Un-sponsored 11-12: Chris Miller (Upland)  
Un-sponsored 13-14: Darren Price (No. Hollywood)  
Un-sponsored 15-17: Ray Wright (Chino)  
Un-sponsored Open: Kent Douglas (Orange)  
Girls 13-&-under: Sue Smith (Lakewood)  
Girls 14-16: Patti Hoffman (Variflex)  
Girls Open: Janice Behrman (Orange)  
Sponsored 10-&-under: Jeff Ronnow (Alva)  
Sponsored 11-12: Kenny Stelmasky (Vans)

Sponsored 13-14: Mike Hirsch (Variflex)  
Sponsored 15-17: Neil Blender (G & S)  
Sponsored Open: Jose Castro (Dog Town)

#### PIPE PASTING:

Park Team 10-&-under: Robbie Wagener (SkaterCross)  
Park Team 11-12: Paul Young (Pipeline)  
Park Team 13-14: Erik Lewis (Skate City)  
Park Team 15-17: Raul Escobedo (SkaterCross)  
Park Team Open: Rusty St. Cyr (Pipeline)  
Un-sponsored 10-&-under: Doug Graham (Upland)  
Un-sponsored 11-12: Chris Miller (Upland)  
Un-sponsored 13-14: Darren Price (No. Hollywood)  
Un-sponsored 15-17: Jim Murphy (Simi)  
Un-sponsored Open: Barry Fields (Orange)  
Girls 13-&-under: Sue Smith (Lakewood)  
Girls 14-16: Carabeth Burnside (Big O)  
Girls Open: Janice Behrman (Orange)  
Sponsored 10-&-under: Jeff Ronnow (Alva)  
Sponsored 13-14: Bob Serafin (Big O)  
Sponsored 15-17: Laurence White (Big O)  
Sponsored Open: Rusty Morris (Variflex)

#### OVERALL PARK FINISH:

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Big O        | 6. Oasis      |
| 2. Colton Ranch | 7. Escondido  |
| 3. Pipeline     | 8. Del Mar    |
| 4. SkaterCross  | 9. Skate City |
| 5. Marina       | 10. Paramount |

#### OVERALL POINT LEADERS: (Through Feb. 2, 1980)

Park Team 10-&-under: Robbie Wagener (SkaterCross)  
Park Team 11-12: Les Pearlman (SkaterCross)  
Park Team 13-14: Roland Cobalis (Colton)  
Park Team 15-17: Lance Mountain (Skate City)  
Park Team Open: Todd Smoke (Big O)  
Un-sponsored 10-&-under: Lonnie Peralta (Woodland Hills)  
Un-sponsored 11-12: Chris Miller (Clairmont)  
Un-sponsored 13-14: Darren Price (No. Hollywood)  
Un-sponsored 15-17: Larry Durand (Los Angeles)  
Un-sponsored Open: Kent Douglas (Orange)  
Girls 13-&-under: Heather Hall (La Palma)  
Girls 14-16: Lisa Forman (SkaterCross)  
Girls Open: Carabeth Burnside  
Sponsored 10-&-under: Jeff Ronnow (Alva)  
Sponsored 11-12: Kenny Stelmasky  
Sponsored 13-14: Mike Hirsch (Variflex)  
Sponsored 15-17: Laurence White (Big O)  
Sponsored Open: Pat Cornelius

#### OVERALL PARK STANDINGS: (Through Feb. 2, 1980)

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Big O       | 6. Oasis        |
| 2. SkaterCross | 7. Del Mar      |
| 3. Pipeline    | 8. Skate City   |
| 4. Colton      | 9. Paramount    |
| 5. Marina      | 10. Boogie Bowl |





## FAST #1

Sensation Basin Skatepark  
Gainesville, Florida  
February 9, 1980

Sensation Basin Skatepark, leading the way into the 80's, held the first of an eight contest series in the state of Florida. The Florida Amateur Skateboard Tournaments (FAST) will give Florida skaters a chance to compete on a continuing basis in the three basic areas of skateboarding: freestyle, banked slalom, and vertical riding. Contests will be held on the first Saturday of each month at the following parks: Sensation Basin, Rainbow Wave, Kona and Clearwater Skatepark.

Judging from the interest, enthusiasm, and hard skating of the competitors and the large turnout of spectators (Florida pros Alan Gelfand, Tim Scroggs and

George McClellan helped serve as judges), it looks as though FAST will generate a lot of action in the coming months. Among the participants were old timers Keith Hollien, who always dominates in the slalom event, and Dan Murray, who put in solid freestyle and vertical routines. It was also good to see a new crop of youngsters, some as young as ten years old, entering a new decade of skate competition.

Look out California amateurs. Now that we have our circuit, we should see national competition sometime in the near future!

—Jim Skiles

(Above)

"Dan Murray . . . put in solid freestyle and vertical routines." Foot plant, Fast #1.

## RESULTS:

### 13-and-under/Sponsored:

1. Mark Santoli (200)
2. Steve Croft (190)
3. Rodney Mullen (100)
4. George Leon (95)
5. Mark Nyhill (90)

### 14-16/Sponsored:

1. Ray Diez (280)
- Mike Thibault (280)
2. Chris Baucom (275)
3. John Hodges (270)
4. Todd Webb (185)
5. Brent Rademaker (160)

### 17-19/Sponsored:

1. Bruce Mason (290)
2. Bruce Koenig (280)
3. Steve Fisher (275)
4. Wes Aho (180)

### 14-16/Independent:

1. Paul Schmitt (275)
2. Manny Arias (195)
3. Bruce Massey (190)
4. Kenny Daniels (90)

### 20-and-over:

1. Dan Murray (295)
2. Tim Schiller (280)
3. Hide Kabota (170)
4. Jim Skiles (170)
5. Keith Hollien (100)



# DALE "Sausage Man" SMITH

by Don Hoffman

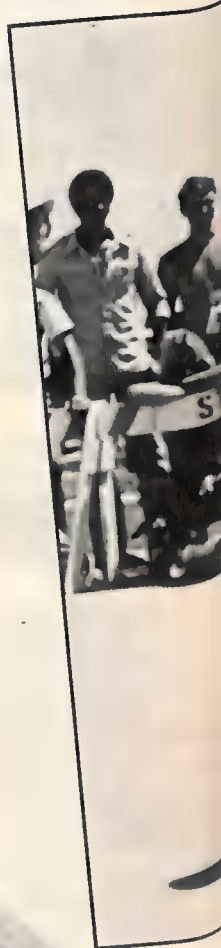
If you remember the Hobie ads featuring a funny-looking cone-head, then you know Dale Smith. Over the years Dale has spent a lot of time clowning around—though the record should read that his contributions to the sport have consisted of much more than just humor.

Dale was exposed to skateboarding by his older brother Mike, and his neighbor Carson Hubbard in 1959. Riding for Bayside Skateboard Team in the early sixties, he felt restricted by the inadequate equipment of the times. It wasn't until years later when he was introduced, through his girlfriend Agnes, to Tom Inouye and the new equipment, did Dale's skating progress commence anew. With Tom, tricks were exchanged and soon it was time to apply them to competition. The year was 1975 and the contest, the South Bay Championships in Torrance, California. Slalom and freestyle were the events and in the company of the Hitchcock brothers and Tom Inouye, Dale put in a credible performance for the Stinger Skateboard Team.

Those who have seen the classic McGillvry-Freeman's *Magic Rolling Board* movie, cannot forget Dale's classic dance sequence. "I entered a lot of dance contests to win money," says Dale. In fact, as of that time, Dale had already been dancing in contests for three years. At the 1975 Ventura Contest, Dale felt he didn't have much chance against the likes of Tom Sims and Ed Nadalin, to name a few. However, he decided to go for it. "I asked them if I could play music with my routine. Up to then music had not been used with freestyle routines," Dale recalls. "I started off using my little dance routine and the crowd responded positively." Freeman picked up on the action and shot it for the movie. The effect was felt. Music

eventually became an integral part of freestyle competition and is usually the backdrop for bowlriding events as well.

From Stinger, Dale moved on to Bigfoot Skateboards, and then finally to Hobie. Along with Skitch Hitchcock, Dale rode for the team and designed boards, among them the popular "Sausage Man" deck (still one of the most popular freestyle boards in Europe). Being a central team member, Dale was able to travel quite a bit through the U.S. and to Europe,







MIYODA



MIYODA

(Above)

Dale is many things—coach, comedian and friend—to many people. If you think this profile sounds more like a tribute, you may be right.

(Left)

DS has long been a highly skilled practitioner of the freestyle art.

spreading his philosophy of humor and skating to all who paused to listen and watch.

About that time, Dale also took over the job of coaching team riders. Initially it was Larry and James Barden and Chris Heinz, all freestylers. But soon Dale found himself helping to choreograph bowlriding routines and working on specific pool tricks for guys like Eddie Elguera and Kevin Moore.

For Dale it is just a matter of applied logic. "I break down maneuvers into basic steps. For example: a handstand on a board starts with a handstand on the ground." Using gymnastic techniques, a spotter, etc., Dale progresses through a completed trick. Bowlriding is similar. "We look at a maneuver through two views: the rider's and the coach's," he points out. Dale worked with Eddie on the "Elgarrio" using this same process.

After leaving Hobie, Dale kept up his teaching relationship with Eddie. Lakewood Skatepark later offered him a management position and he presently serves in that capacity. Dale is also now working with Madrid Skateboards in design and coaching the team.

Dale's future plans in skateboarding are to actively continue his role as teacher. Among the Madrid amateurs, Paul Molina seems to be Dale's choice as one of the up-and-coming. Other notable amateurs on the team include John Schaaf, Bobby Freis, and Chris Rennie.

Dale hopes to see the coaching aspect of skating become more developed and professional. At 28, he spends most of his free time doing something athletic, whether it be skating, surfing or dancing. Regarding his skate involvement in particular, he credits Skitch Hitchcock and Russ Howell as tremendous influences over the direction he has finally decided to channel his talents and energies.

Seems we owe Skitch and Russ a debt of thanks too. ☺



GOODRICH

(Above)

Dressed to kill—with laughter! Oceanside 78. (Opposite page)

It is little known . . . but Dale actually hails from a small town in the south of France.



# OFF THE WALL

As we enter into this current torrent of glossolalia, the much rumored Ted Nugent text is now history. The SKATEBOARDER Poll Banquet #3 is now well on its way to becoming the same. Only time will tell if Mr. and Mrs. Olson (parents of Steve), were successful in their quest to obtain tickets. They tried to send in money, only it got sent back. They tried to contact D. David Morin and got no answer. They asked Steve and found out even he didn't have an access pass ticket . . . and your mother thinks she has problems! The Lawns have cut out and are on tour in Texas in a converted Greyhound Scenic Cruiser! Even Sue Tissue couldn't get a ticket. Think about the consequences.

## CREATIVE CITIZENSHIP DEPT.

Announcing the Olympic Skate Park, Son of the State of Washington, Super 80 Punk Party for Muscular Dystrophy. Yes, on June 22, there will be free skate time for those with sponsors, and an incredible costume party complete with trophies and prizes (individual or teams). Note the team photo for costume clues. Rumor has it that Alvie the resident roller wonder is tinting his long strands mezzotint purple for the occasion. Alvie after appearing on Kidsworld TV is currently tuning up for his Real People NBC debut with Chris Ross, Andy and Ricky Sarkany, Jim Brown and Nancy McGraw.



Olympic Skateboard Park Demo Team.

## THERE OUGHT TO BE A LAW DEPT.

Ponder this typical tale from an average American town. After the Carmel, California, designated legal authorities decided to outlaw skating on city streets, a few of the local boys decided to take matters into their own hands. Led by Steve Sippel and Tim Connolly, the group obtained strategic building materials and

certified, genuine Rampage Ramp plan. Next they talked Sippel's parents into letting them construct the plywood half pipe in their front yard. After completing construction, everything was fine. Wrong . . . things were cool for awhile until an irate neighbor called the police and complained. According to the complainant, Mrs. Jane Turner, "It's an obscene edifice . . . it's very ugly, it's such a disgrace it should be chopped down this minute." Officer Ken O'Donovan, who determined that Mrs. Turner was primarily bothered by the noise, told the Sippels not to use the ramp after 8 P.M. The group at last word was insulating the ramp to help soundproof it while Carmel Building Inspector Ron Warren was pondering the zoning and building codes for possible violations. "It is a structure, but I don't know anything about skateboard ramps," he stated. Mrs. Sippel, Steve's mother and president of Carmel's Library Board, stated the ramp became a problem because of philosophical differences between herself and Mrs. Turner. She also defended her son's ramp because she says the city has not provided youngsters with another place to ride. Will the city give the kids a place to skate? Will the building inspector order the ramp torn down? Will the neighbor withdraw her complaint? The only thing certifiable is that this case is symptomatic of hundreds of others across the nation. Life will go on and people will skate no matter what. You are not alone.

## PERFECT ASH HOLES DEPT.

Ever get that craving for those perfectly centered and symmetrically drilled holes in your decks? Well Pete Zehnder of Alva Skates is still personally drilling all corporate issue decks in the interest of accuracy. Doug Noble, the Marina Skatepark manager is so obsessed with the perfect hole that he claims to have invented a "mathematically certain method for total and absolute symmetry." Alan Gelfand is reported on occasion to travel 150 miles to a certain high-tech industrial machine shop to have his decks holed. If you think that's bad, tune out for our next WAY BORING DEPT.

## FUTURE CONTESTS FORMATS

A major topic of discourse these days is the future format of the competitive arena. Bad H. Hester, who is masquerading as a heavy construction worker, dropped two thousand bones last time out, but is still game as ever. Sarge Skoldberg is purportedly masterminding plans for a pro-slalom circuit. Out in Reseda, "Uncle Lou" Peralta's been heading ASPO meetings discussing major rules and



Alvie the Wonder Dog poses in mid-rail walk.

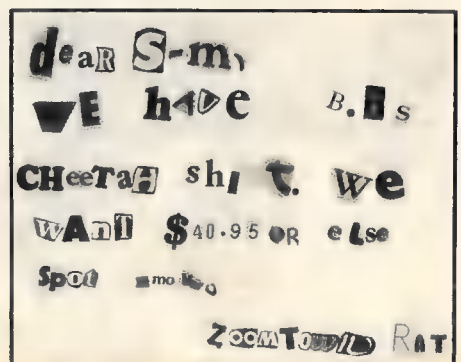
format changes. At one such recent meeting the attendants included Kent Sherwood, Stacy "No Relation" Peralta, Don Hoffman, Mr. Alba, Polar Bear, Eric Gresham, Ray Allen, Mr. Paul Sims and Everett Rosecrans. The proposed new judging system will be put up to the teams of all involved for comments.

## BREAKING TRAINING DEPT.

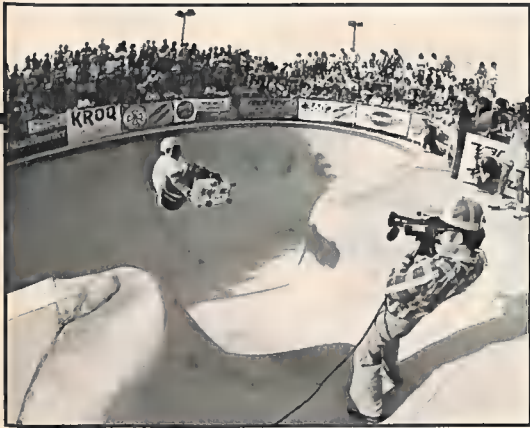
In apparent relation to none of the above, Rick Blackhart continues to train daily. Major doses of physical exertion are the order for the Doc, who only yesterday blew away T-Bone at a dam photo session with his vintage high frequency style.

## SHORT STANDARDS DEPT.

Up to his usual cutting standards is Duane Peters. At the Big O competitive revue, Duane maintained his rep. by giving his old equipment to some deserving up-and-coming kids and then shearing the heads of anyone and everyone in sight. At one point it was ankle deep hair in the barber room as Peters severed the hairs of Ray Bones







Ray Allen shoots El Gato for—what else?—the "Ray Allen Show," now playing on cable TV in San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose and Santa Monica.

Rodriguez, Craig Rowe, Ted Terrebonne, several girls and all the fortunate heads that his well clipped gang could drag in. Only King James survived the onslaught without losing his locks.

Quote #1

"You name it and I'll cut it."—Duane Peters.

#### WHY DON'T YOU JUGHEADS INTERVIEW ... DEPT.

Daily our staff mailbags are stuffed with input demanding interviews of the usual assortment. Today's derangements included requests for instant interview gratification from the Dead Kennedys, ABBA, Blondie, Cars, Cheap Trick, Talking Heads, Bobby Sherman, Plasmatics, Textones, Live Damage, Gary Newman, Teenage Jesus, Bob Marley, John Cale, Cretones, Mung, X, Muck and Barf, Johnny Cash, Pere Ubu, Wall of Voodoo, Bags, Fall, Plugz, Black Flag, Buzzcocks, The Chappaquidicks, Madness, Mahogany Rush and two others we can't decipher. Obviously even if we gave into your outrageous demands it would take awhile. So stay on the line and be patient. It's so easy to see why Lydia Lunch was out to same at staff headquarters leaving us holding the check.

Quote #2

"Go Neanderthal when everyone existential goes presidential."—Cash McAnlis.

#### PICK OF MONTH

The Florida amateur contest circuit.

#### MORE QUICK KILLS

Fluorescent Glenn Friedman and Blue Jay Smith are pondering the possibilities of their own mail order restraint business enterprise. Their wares, which Smith describes as "safety gear in reverse" includes studded wrist braces, lead lined knee pads, chain male chokers, and leather masks with zipper closures. Incidentally this week Jay is colored a stunning brunette with flame-retardant red highlights.

#### QUESTION OF MONTH:

Which park decided against installing racquetball courts and instead put in a surf shop and beach boutique?

#### SUBJECTIVE SHORTS DEPT.

The Raver strikes. After seeing "Apocalypse Now" 14 times, Dave Andrecht is promising to sign up for front line duty just as soon as we shore launch in the Persian Gulf. Regarding the man's quest for some cover action, the Godfather has gregariously yielded to the pressure, consenting to leave it up to Andrecht and Bowman. Whoever gets the most rad photo gets the ad.

Fred "Real Life Fiction" Blood, last seen in public with Deborah Harry, or was it Manny, Moe and Jack, has scored another bionic first. According to deuce informant Ted Three, Fred is so prime-time famous that a recent national poll proved Blood to be the most recognizable skater in America today. Ted adds that the poll was conducted by the D. Downs Barder Agency which is noted for its indepth political analysis. To compound our computations further, Blood has retained the services of internationally renowned art director Andrew Janson.

Don Hoffman has shaved his moustache off in an effort to win the Henry Hester twin contest.

Alan Gelfand and Stacy Peralta are momentarily in transit to Sweden where they will teach skating for a month at Camp Eurocana.

#### BUST #1

The Goodrich family of La Mesa, California, tried but failed in an audition for TV's FAMILY FEUD. A vaguely resembled Jim Goodrich told host Richard Dawson that "he was employed by a skateboard magazine." Dawson's comment, "I didn't know skateboards could read!"

Latest dispatch from Hal Jepsen Studios: Despite the record floods around the studio concourse, his long-awaited skate film will be finished soon. [Ed. note, HJ is presumably referring to the flooding in Topanga Canyon, which was subsequently declared a federal disaster area.]

Our good guy of the month award goes to Dennis Martinez who graciously posed with his ex-girlfriend during his interview photo session. Talk about giving the chick a break.

Question: While Southern California beaches were closed due to pollution levels 200 times in excess of the government safety standards, who decided to go surfing? Answer: Tony Alva. Seen at Santa Barbara's Rincon Point, TA astounded the masses with his style and

process blue hair. The locals were so blown away that they demanded to be told some sort of coherent answer. Tom Sims, who admitted he did know Tony, graciously said, "I used to race the bugger and TA's the ultimate conformist." We guess it all goes to prove that outside of the sphere of electronic media interest, the existing enclaves are conceded to the opposition.

SKATEBOARDER'S "Utah . . . Beyond Donny and Marie" is already causing comments at Osmond Headquarters. Apparently our Mormon connection Douglas Schneider couldn't resist leaking the info to his main boy Donny.

#### FURTHER BUSTS

Stacy Peralta is so far into his new corporate image that he's taken to listening to self improvement tapes. Recent topics allegedly have included "The Hard Sell," "Closing that Big Deal," "Channeling that Positive Energy," "Investments for Fun and Money," "Organizational Tips," "How to Run a Convention" and "Bookkeeping in the Computer Age." This guy is so far gone that his phone-answering machine tape is recycled from the Rockford Files.

#### FURTHER QUOTES

"Gil Losi totally flows the gossip."—Fred Blood

"If skating is judged solely on tricks, then all we're going to end up with is a bunch of robots."—Fausto



Funny Foto

#### FOOLISH

Yes, 6 #8 was D. David Morin. Prizes to Butch Paulson of Stoneridge, N.Y. And for our last offering here's a clue: No, it's not true that he wears a breathing apparatus because his Badland brother's recent interview stinks.

For the future of foolishness view these masked marauders.

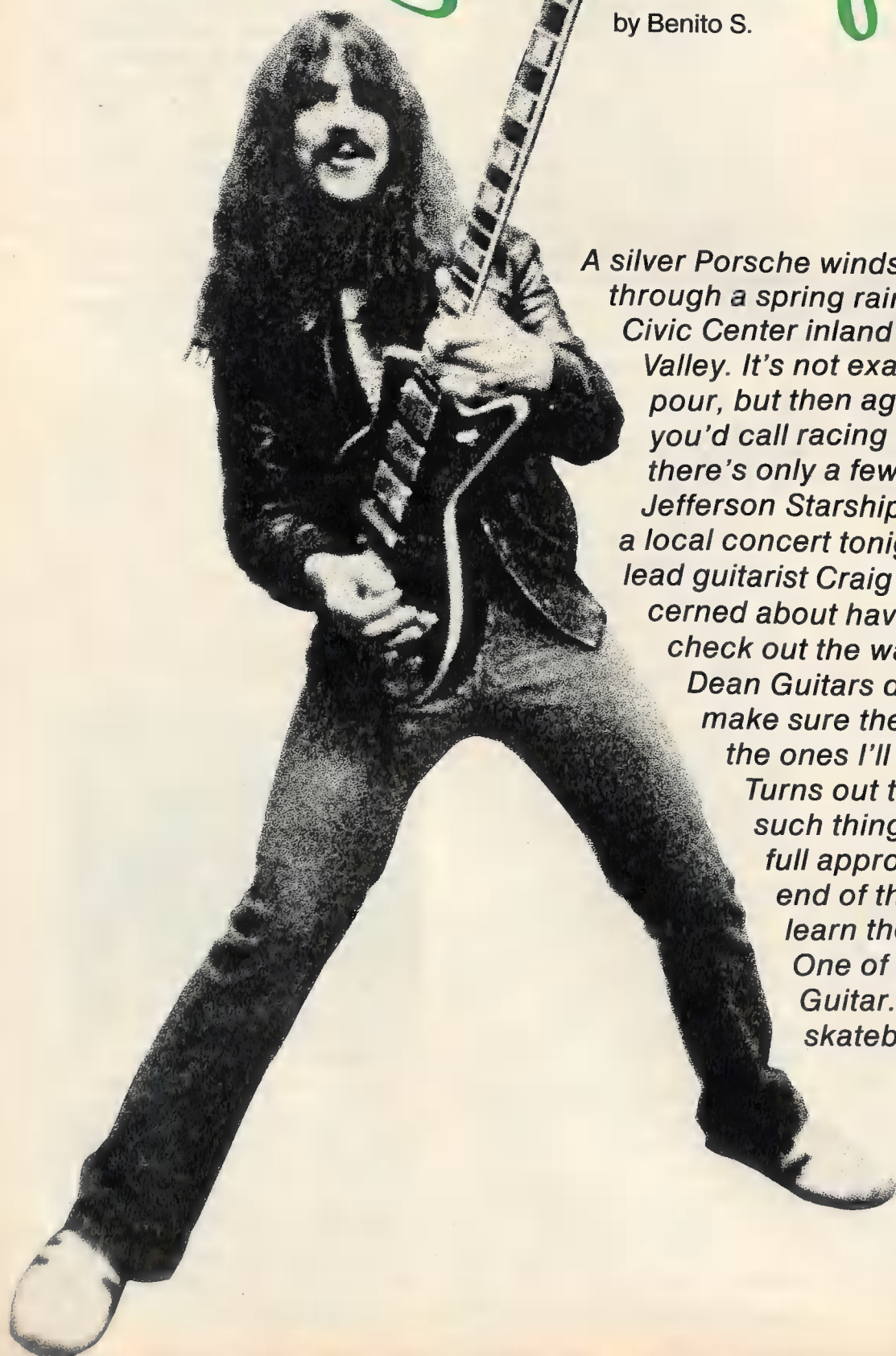
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Special Interview:

# Craig Chaquico

by Benito S.



*A silver Porsche winds out down Route 8 through a spring rain from San Diego Civic Center inland toward El Cajon Valley. It's not exactly a steady down-pour, but then again, it's not what you'd call racing weather either. Still, there's only a few hours until the Jefferson Starship's sound check for a local concert tonight, and rhythm and lead guitarist Craig Chaquico is concerned about having enough time to check out the wares of a nearby Dean Guitars distributorship "to make sure they're all as good as the ones I'll be endorsing."*

*Turns out there aren't many such things Craig will cast his full approval on. Before the end of the day, however, I learn there are at least two. One of them is a Dean Guitar. The other is a skateboard.*



On this particular day my tape recorder is likewise in full gear. I am sitting in the passenger's seat of Craig's machine, picking up on a steady stream of rap about his two longtime passions—rock 'n roll and skating. Seems Craig has been riding off and on since he was a little kid in Sacramento, California, and playing guitar seriously about as long. You might expect that young Craig was destined to be either a "hot shot" skater or musician. Fifteen years later, at age 25, Craig is certainly the latter. Having



Craig finds the relationships of skate and rock energies a close and complimentary one. Anaheim, February, 1977.



(Above)

"Tony and I got along pretty good, despite the fact that he's as radical as he is." Catamaraning with T.A., October, 1976.

(Below)

"By the time I was sixteen, I'd been playing eight hours a day for six years . . ." In the S.D. offices of Dean Guitars, February, 1980.

because he was going to go skateboarding. So I ended up going along." Turns out Craig was blown away by the new, high tech skates and quickly caught on. "We were skating down this mountain—it's about an eight mile run—and our girlfriends were following behind us in the car with the stereo blasting and the headlights on so we could see where we were going. And it was such a rush. Cruising down the mountain was such a feeling of freedom, I loved it. I fell in love with the sport again."

Craig's enthusiasm quickly proved contagious. Newspaper stories soon began circulating of the wild Chaquico leading Gracie Slick and the rest of the

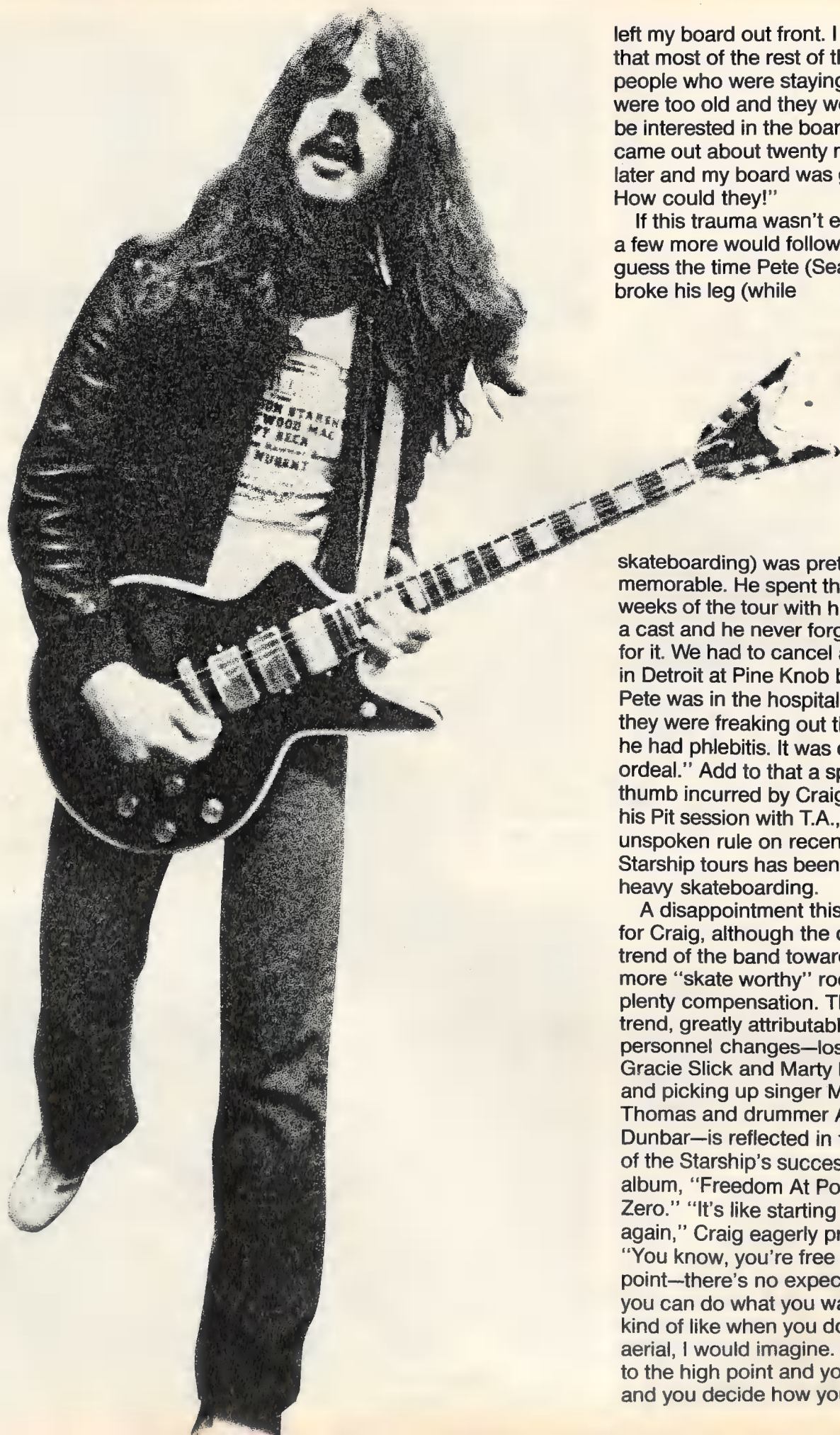
Starship troop in skate assault through hotel lobbies, airport lounges, and wherever else their road tours took them. An otherwise clean living sort, Craig had become a true skate addict—to the point where one of his worst recent memories involved a favorite skate which was ripped off at a Miami hotel. "It had all these stage passes on it—it was great! I had just been skating around the pool and then I went to my room and just

already put in six years with the Starship, since its metamorphosis from San Francisco legendary Jefferson Airplane, he is a core member of that group. What's more, after cruising with Tony Alva at the Pit and doing a bit part in the movie *Skateboard* a few years back, this premier rock guitarist ain't exactly lacking skate credits either.

Craig's recreational pursuit of the skate art was revived in the mid-70's after being reintroduced to his old acquaintance by one of the Starship's roadies. "Me and my girlfriend and he and his old lady went out to eat one night and it was a full moon, and after dinner he said he had to split







left my board out front. I figured that most of the rest of the people who were staying there were too old and they wouldn't be interested in the board. I came out about twenty minutes later and my board was gone. How could they!"

If this trauma wasn't enough, a few more would follow. "I guess the time Pete (Sears) broke his leg (while

skateboarding) was pretty memorable. He spent three weeks of the tour with his leg in a cast and he never forgave me for it. We had to cancel a show in Detroit at Pine Knob because Pete was in the hospital and they were freaking out thinking he had phlebitis. It was quite an ordeal." Add to that a sprained thumb incurred by Craig during his Pit session with T.A., and the unspoken rule on recent Starship tours has been no heavy skateboarding.

A disappointment this may be for Craig, although the current trend of the band toward playing more "skate worthy" rock is plenty compensation. This trend, greatly attributable to personnel changes—losing Gracie Slick and Marty Balin and picking up singer Mickey Thomas and drummer Aynsley Dunbar—is reflected in the title of the Starship's successful new album, "Freedom At Point Zero." "It's like starting over again," Craig eagerly provides. "You know, you're free at that point—there's no expectations; you can do what you want. It's kind of like when you do an aerial, I would imagine. You get to the high point and you're free, and you decide how you're



going to come down, what line you're going to draw."

That new line, Craig goes on to explain, is firmly directed by Dunbar's inspired percussion. "We got Aynsley, who used to play with Journey, to sit in with us, and he didn't know what to think. 'Starship, man, I'll fall asleep playing with those guys.' But he played awhile and really got into it. And after two jams with him, we knew he was the drummer for us."

The other major addition to the Starship, lead vocalist



Craig's guitar playing and stage presence provide much of the flash and energy for the Starship's concert shows.

Mickey Thomas, was slightly more premeditated, though equally fortuitous. Craig emphasizes that the band wasn't looking for a mere replacement, but actually something much more substantial. "We wanted someone to sing the high parts of the harmonies, fill that niche—we definitely wanted a high male singer. But at the same time we wanted someone who could step out and sing real aggressive leads, who had his own style." A friend of Craig's felt he knew of just the guy. Mickey was playing around nearby Marin County then, and a meeting was arranged. "He showed up at practice one day and everybody flipped out over

his voice." After resolving some legal difficulties (Mickey had just been signed with another record company), Mickey joined up and the present incarnation of the Airplane/Starship came to be.

The result of the new line-up and philosophy is a generally spirited sound with more traditional rock riffs, while continuing to feature the classic Starship (and before that Airplane) harmonic blend. Craig provides an apt skate analogy: "It's like a skater who was just really into freestyle, real graceful, poetic lines, who decided to skate pools. He would still be the same skater, you would recognize some of his moves, but he'd be taking it to a radical edge. And that's what we're doing, more and more."

Did the more liberal atmosphere of experimentation within today's rock community also help bring about that change? Craig concedes, "We were influenced by New Wave. Speaking for the whole group, I think we all like the



Jamming with David Freiberg, S.D., February, 1980.

aggressiveness, the energy. Actually, to me Tom Petty and the Police and groups like that, or just super hot rock players like Ted Nugent . . . it's just great rock 'n roll."

The youngest member of the band, Craig's preference toward more assertive, dynamic rock is not unexpected. What may be is his reputation as a serious and important contributor to the overall sound. "I've been given the opportunity to help arrange a lot. I'll get the chance to suggest bass parts and little fills



"It's not just gonzo type rock, but effective rock that takes you on a trip." S.D. concert.

and so on to help tighten the sound. Sometimes it needs one person to kind of—not tell everybody what to play—but to make suggestions and maybe ask questions that forces us all to agree on certain parts . . . I'm looking forward to doing more of that."

What else does the future hold for Craig? "There's a guy in Marin who's selling his (skateboard) ramp, and I might buy it." And as for his guitar playing, which continues to command the respect of his peers and attention among press and fans? "I definitely feel at a peak; I feel like I'm at a pinnacle of a lot of energy. It's really good now. I hope it keeps getting better, as far as being a rewarding situation, artistically, and creatively and emotionally . . . I just hope it doesn't go downhill from here—so to speak!" ☺



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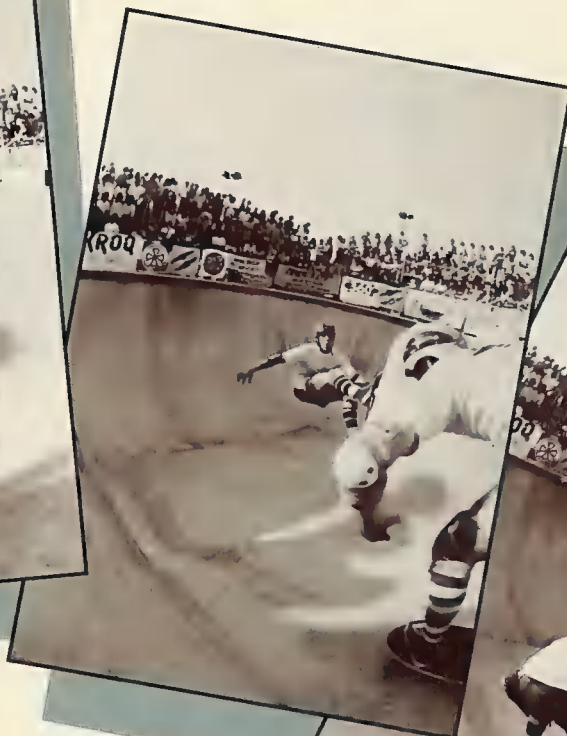


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*Is doubles competition as insane as they say? Well, we're not sure how you define insane, but sometimes a good doubles act verges on downright suicidal, as these photos of Olson and Peters attest. Just goes to show you some guys will do anything for a buck. Big "O" Pro-Am.*



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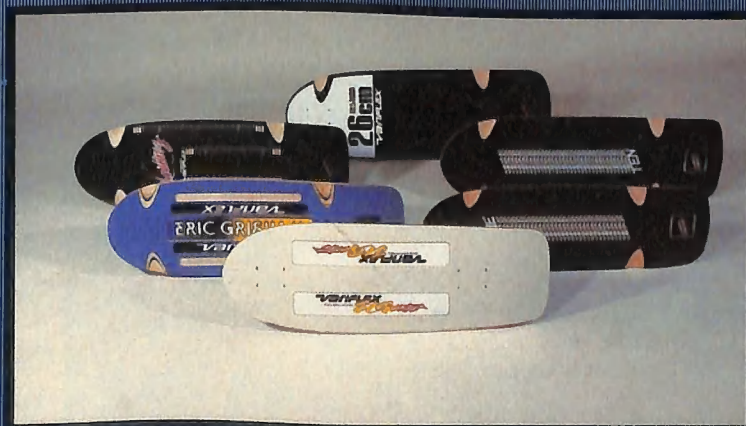
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